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6 September 1984

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

CONTENTS

AUSTRALIA

Briefs

New Zealand Defense Contract	1
Agriculture Agreement With Malaysia	1
High Technology to PRC	1
Funds to Thai Antipiracy Drive	2
British Nuclear Tests Inquiry	2

INDONESIA

FRETILIN Calls for Coordinated Diplomatic Efforts With Portugal (JORNAL DE ANGOLA, 5 Aug 84)	3
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LAOS

Saravane Party Activist Profiled (Souvanpheng; MEGNING LAO, Jun 84)	4
Savannakhet Youth Cooperation With SRV Against Enemy (Poumsi Soutthichak; NOUM LAO, 15-30 Apr 84)	6
Architectural Training Institute Described (PATHET LAO, No 4, 1983)	8
Bulgarian-Aided Hydropower Plant in Sam Neua, Wages Noted (Siviengsam; HENGNGAN, 16-31 May 84)	10

PHILIPPINES

'Free Soul' Imee Contrasts With President, First Lady (Mariano M. Florido; VISAYAN HERALD, 1 Aug 84)	12
Presidency Takes Over Power To Name Receiverships (Antonio G. Macapagal; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 1 Aug 84)	14

Sultan Urges Negotiations With Muslim Rebels (BULLETIN TODAY, 21 Aug 84)	16
NPA Taxes Said Four Times Higher Than Government Rate (Owen Masaganda; BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Aug 84)	17
Central Bank Plans To Relax Deposit Rules (BUSINESS DAY, 17 Aug 84)	18
Editorial on Dangers to KBL in Collantes Sanctions (ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA, 3 Aug 84)	20
MALAYA Publisher Views Journalist's Statement on Silencing Dissent (Jose G. Burgos; ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA, 3 Aug 84)	22
WFTU Affiliate Denies Communist Front Allegations (ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA, 1 Aug 84)	24
RUC Commander Declares 'No Military Problem' in Mindanao (THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR, 1 Aug 84)	25
Mindanao Tribes Reject Ministry Inclusion With Muslims (Roger Flaviano, PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM, 1 Aug 84)	27
Film Bears 'Striking Similarities' to Agrava Board (Migs Enriquez; VISAYAN HERALD, 1 Aug 84)	29
U.S. 'Second Thoughts' on Client Dictators Hailed (Benedicto David; BULLETIN TODAY, 4 Aug 84)	31
ARABIA Reports Drive Against MNLF, Urges Malaysian 'Solidarity' (ARABIA: THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW, No 36, Aug 84)	33
SEC Figures Show Foreign Investment Increase (PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 1 Aug 84)	36
Japanese Official Visits, Additional Assistance Explored (Brenda P. Tuazon; BULLETIN TODAY, 3, 5 Aug 84)	37
'Bold Measures' Recommended Japan Committed to Additional Aid	
AFP General Denies USSR Intends To Control Strait (F. T. Flores; BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Aug 84)	40
Briefs	
NPA Bombing Plans	41
Three Suspected Communists	41

SINGAPORE

Briefs	
January-June Trade Figures	42

THAILAND

Military, Political Leaders Profiled (THAI RAT, various dates; DAILY NEWS, various dates)	43
SAP's Phong Sarasin Queen's Aides Democratic Nation Official Police Major Generals New RTAF Secretary, by Nanthana 4th Army Commander, by Nanthana RTMC Commander, by Nanthana RTN Secretary, by Nanthana RTA Munitions Expert, by Nanthana	
4th Army Commander Blames CPT for Unrest (NAEO NA, 30 Jun 84)	56
Large Tin Deposit Found, 1987 Production Target (NAEO NA, 8 Jun 84)	59
Columnist Notes Indonesian ASEAN Leadership Views on SRV (NAEO NA, 29 May 84)	61
Agreement With Finland, Sweden on Sattahip Port Improvement (NAEO NA, 13 May 84)	63
Tension Rises, Lao Close Loei Border (DAO SIAM, 12 Jul 84)	65
Foreign Investment, Technology Transfer Issues Noted (NAEO NA, 8 Jul 84)	67

VIETNAM

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Stronger Discipline Linked to Better Living Conditions Within Army (Le Quang Hoa; TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, Jun 84)	69
Second BSR Troops Said To Cross Thai Border, Rob, Rape (BAN MUANG, 13 May 84)	74

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

NEW ZEALAND DEFENSE CONTRACT--A Canberra-based company has won the contract to replace New Zealand's defense communications system with a network modeled on Australia's new system. The contract is worth \$11.5 million--about U.S. \$9.5 million. It was signed in Wellington today by New Zealand's secretary for defense, Mr (McClellan), and the managing director of Plessey Pacific Defense Systems, Mr (Murphy Johnson). The deal provides for the completion by 1990 of what is claimed to be the world's first strategic system for secure digital telephone and information transmission. A similar contract for the first phase of the Australian defense communications network, worth \$150 million, was awarded to Plessey Pacific earlier this year. Australia's defense minister, Mr Scholes, said today that with essentially identical defense communications network there could be a range of detailed agreements for systems management and cooperation between Australia and New Zealand. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Jul 84 BK]

AGRICULTURE AGREEMENT WITH MALAYSIA--The Australia and Malaysia Governments have signed an agreement in Kuala Lumpur under which Australia will help with 14 agricultural research projects in Malaysia. The agreement provides for the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research to channel funds and provide assistance for the project. They include research into rice storage problems, the behavior of pesticides in tropical areas, plants nutrition, and the transfer of technology in the rubber industry. [Excerpt] [BK041526 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Aug 84 BK]

HIGH TECHNOLOGY TO PRC--Australian high technology manufacturing processors will shortly be exported to China as a result of an agreement signed this week. The agreement was negotiated by a delegation from An-hui Province in China, which is touring Australia's eastern states. The delegation has already signed an initial agreement with a Melbourne company for computerized conveyor control systems and it hopes to complete initial agreements with companies in Sydney to provide confectionary-making equipment, bakery machinery, and stockfeed mixing components. [Summary] [BK041526 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Aug 84 BK]

FUNDS TO THAI ANTIPIRACY DRIVE--Australia is to contribute \$340,000 towards an antipiracy program in the Gulf of Thailand--that's equivalent to about U.S. \$285,000. The \$4 million dollar program to be administered by the Thai Government is aimed at preventing piracy and attacks on refugee and other boats in the area. The foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, said the human misery inflicted on the boat people had convinced Australia that piracy at sea was a large problem which the international community should seek to resolve. [Text] [BK050938 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Aug 84]

BRITISH NUCLEAR TESTS INQUIRY--The royal commission inquiring into British nuclear tests in Australia in the 1950's and 60's begins in Sydney today. The commission will be headed by the chief judge of the New South Wales Land and Environment Court, Mr Justice (McKillen). The two other commissioners are a senior health physicist and a university lecturer in geography. The commission will inquire into British nuclear tests carried out at the Montebello Island off the north coast of Western Australia and at Emu and Maralinga in South Australia. In particular, the commission will examine the measures taken to protect people from exposure to radiation, whether the measures were adequate, and whether exposure to radiation adversely affected people's health. It will also consider whether the British Government withheld any relevant information from the Australian Government at the time of the tests and how it subsequently disposed radioactive materials. [Text] [BK220238 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 22 Aug 84]

CSO: 4200/979

FRETILIN CALLS FOR COORDINATED DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS WITH PORTUGAL

Maputo JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 5 Aug 84 p 12

[Text] Friday, Mari Alkatiri, head of the foreign relations department of FRETILIN (Revolutionary Front for Independent East Timor), explained why it was necessary for Portugal to coordinate its diplomatic efforts with his movement and with African states whose official language is Portuguese.

Alkatiri, who arrived from Maputo on his way to Bissau where he will meet with the ministers of foreign affairs of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries, said at the Lisbon airport that a new development to be taken into consideration is the official communique which came out of the 19 July meeting between President Eanes and Prime Minister Mario Soares.

"It was necessary to hit upon a unified platform among the various organizations of Portuguese sovereignty, but the same should be applicable to other forces--namely, FRETILIN and the five African countries," Alkatiri declared.

Although, in general, he approved the communique which recognizes the right of the East Timor people to self-determination, he went on to say that the document contains certain points which still need to be discussed and clarified in future meetings between FRETILIN and the Portuguese leaders.

"The struggle in East Timor is being carried on by all the people, not just by certain elements, as it is stated in the official communique," asserted Alkatiri, according to whom the international communique can no longer ignore East Timor's present situation, which is and will be proved by stands taken by various governments and even by Pope John Paul II.

8568

CSO: 3442/459

SARAVANE PARTY ACTIVIST PROFILED

Vientiane MEGNING LAO in Lao Jun 84 p 8

["The Lao Women's Federation" Column by Souvanpheng: "One of the First Group of the Central Committee of the Lao Women's Federation: Mrs Chanpheng Phimmavan, Secretary of the Lao Women's Federation Central Committee"]

[Excerpts] Comrade Mrs Chanpheng Phimmavan was born on 15 May 1936 in Ban Thongko, Lao Ngam Canton, Lao Ngam District, Saravane Province. Her nationality is Lao Theung (Savoi).

She joined the revolution in July 1954. At that time she was the chief of the young women's association in the village (Gnouyannali).

In 1957 because of the serious blockade by the enemies there was a conversion to the revolutionary base. Comrade Chanpheng left her home to become a [cadre helping out] in the district office in Pak Song.

In 1960 she helped out and was a clerk and a typist in the Saravane provincial office. At that time there was a shortage of typists. She had to type documents day and night to get the work done on time.

She became a party member in 1961.

In 1962 she was assigned to mobilize women in Pakse Nok, Lao Ngam, and Pak Song Districts, and was appointed to the base party unit committee in the Saravane provincial office.

In 1963 she was appointed to the administrative committee in Saravane Province with responsibility for mobilizing women.

From 1963 to 1965 she was assigned to Vietnam to study culture and theory.

At the end of 1965 she was appointed to work in the central mobilizing division and also the party chapter of the central mobilizing division.

In 1967 she was appointed to the party chapter committee of the [central united front.]

In 1968 she was in the party committee in an office around the [central echelon], and was also appointed to a mobilization committee for setting up the Lao Women's Patriotic Association throughout the country.

In 1972 she was a member of the party committee around the [central echelon].

From 1976 to 1977 she was the chief of the office of the Lao Women's Patriotic Association.

In 1977-1979 she was a member of the mobilization committee for setting up the Lao Women's Patriotic Association throughout the country, and she was also chief of the training department.

In 1980 she was a party chapter committee member in the central Lao Women's Federation office and was also appointed assistant chairman of the mobilization committee for setting up the Lao Women's Patriotic Association nationwide.

In March 1984 the first nationwide congress of the Lao Women's Association selected her for the secretariate of the Central Committee of the Lao Women's Federation and also to be chief of the [central federation division].

9884

CSO: 4206/153

SAVANNAKHET YOUTH COOPERATION WITH SRV AGAINST ENEMY

Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 15-30 Apr 84 pp 7, 10

/Article by Poumsi Souththichak: "Savannakhet Youth Unite Themselves Against the Enemy"/

/Excerpts/ It has been many days that Savannakhet District has been alive with an atmosphere of achievement emulation. It represented the night-and-day longing of many hundreds and thousands of hearts to welcome the congress to summarize the emulation in the three solidarities and four offensives of youth union members throughout Savannakhet Province.

This expectation came true! On 2 April 1984 in Pho Kaduat club, the radio blared from 7:30. The louder the dancing and singing were the happier it made the hearts of over 200 youth union members, the outstanding representatives from 8 districts.

Mr Sikai Sitthison, a national hero and assistant secretary of the Lao People's Revolution Youth Union Executive Committee for Savannakhet Province, read the summary of the second "three solidarities and four offensives" emulation set by the provincial youth union since early May 1982. Here he pointed out the great achievements in each aspect, for example:

--solidarity within each level of the youth union. Each youth union member has embraced solidarity and attracted a great many youth into the organization to make it grow strong in quantity and quality, and mobilized the people's children in their studies and to firmly grasp foreign policies, peace, independence, and the socialism of the party and government. Generally speaking, the Savannakhet provincial youth union has worked unceasingly. In particular, it has increased and improved militant relations with youth union members of the three fraternal countries, specifically with the people and youth union in Binh Tri Thien materially and spiritually. When the Binh Tri Thien provincial youth union and its people faced natural disaster (flooding) our youth union was concerned and hurriedly collected rice and 10,000 bamboo sticks.

Our youth union has many times stood side by side with our neighboring Vietnamese volunteer youth to annihilate the enemies;

--the battlefield of national defense and security. Since May 1982 over 600 youth of both sexes have awakened and joined the national defense and security forces. They have actively studied tactics and military strategy on attacking and defending including protecting domestic and foreign guests 735 times, and attacking the enemies 8,577 times of which 62 times were actual fighting that caused 925 deaths, 488 injured, 39 captured, and 431 surrendered with 119 assorted guns, 4,962 assorted bullets, 51 grenades, and 32 M-18 mines. A secret enemy camp and also a number of different equipment were destroyed.

In the afternoon the atmosphere of the conference began to change to a new time. Mr Diang, the district office chief and also general secretary of /the Battalion 968 youth union/, presented an impressive message from the SRV Communist Youth Union and specifically from the beloved youth union in Binh Tri Thien, our twin province and special friends in a deeply moving atmosphere. He also gave a large picture to the memory of Laos and Vietnam, always close and loyal to each other, that once shared tears and laughter and that stood side by side defending the country and constructing socialism to be prosperous and strong, and affecting developing lands in this part of the world.

9884

CSO: 4206/153

ARCHITECTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE DESCRIBED

Vientiane PATHET LAO in Lao No 4, 1983, pp 8, 9

[Article: "Architectural Training"]

[Text] The first construction after the nation was liberated was the high-level architectural training institute which is a four-storey building in Dong Pa Lan Ward, the center of Vientiane Capital.

Professor Bounleum Sisoulat, the chief of the school's board of directors, told us about its history and expansion. He said that with the approval of the Council of Ministers in 1982 the architectural training school for cadres was officially opened after it had been experimenting in teaching and learning since the end of 1979.

In the beginning the school encountered many difficulties, for example, when the school was not yet finished, [and there were not enough] teachers and equipment they had to divide up cadres from the [district construction planning department] to work there. After 60 students of the first group had graduated, the school screened out a number of good students plus high-level students in this field who had graduated abroad. This helped the assembling of cadres to gradually take shape.

Now there are 30 teachers and cadres in all including 15 teachers, 2 boards of directors, and 3 SRV experts who came to help set up the teaching project.

In the past the teachers studied and translated books from foreign languages into Lao.

For each group of students sent by the Ministry of Education and cadres from the ministries concerned to be accepted, the students must meet two conditions: they must have graduated from senior high school with average scores in mathematics and materials of at least 5/10, and must have an aptitude for painting and drawing along with good health and morale. In the first group 60 students were accepted, in the second 160 students, in the third 250 students, and in the fourth 245 students.

According to the 1983-1984 academic year, 160 more students will be accepted from the fifth group. There are now 635 students of which 120 are women.

One group of students of 31 technicians has already graduated. This year 124 students will be graduated.

The curriculum is a 3-year system which finishes at a high level. There is a total of over 40 subjects totaling 4,523 hours broken down into 3 main areas:

- a general curriculum of 1,192 hours making up 26.2 percent;
- a theory and technical curriculum of 1,968 hours making up 43.4 percent;
- actual practice of 1,374 hours which is 30.4 percent.

Each year the first and second-year students will practice in different construction projects for 45 days, and then they will continue their second area. Only in the first and second years do they take all subjects.

Selecting the field of study is an important matter for students. One must take a subject he is able to learn and that he is good at. Therefore, in the third year a student has the right to select one of the two fields of architecture and engineering in order to prepare for a diploma after finishing the two fields. Students of both sexes in these two fields are said to have nearly equal capability.

The school has a library, club, drawing room, and dormitory for the students. According to the plan for technical cadre training of the Ministry of Construction, if in the first 5-year plan this school can train 120 high-level cadres per year, and 160 mid-level cadres from the communications and transportation school per year, the number of technical cadres would still not be enough for the expansion of this task. However, it will provide a basis for cadre training for many more years in the future.

9884

CSO: 4206/153

BULGARIAN-AIDED HYDROPOWER PLANT IN SAM NEUA, WAGES NOTED

Vientiane HENGNGAN in Lao 16-31 May 84 p 12

[Article by Siviengsam: "A Hydropower Plant Construction Project In Sam Neua"]

[Text] When I went to see the Sam Neua hydropower plant construction site our workers were attentively and determinedly carrying out the construction in their own work units. Comrade (Balian), the assistant chief of the project who is also responsible for specialized [technical] tasks, told us the following.

Construction got started in early March 1982 funded by the Party Central Committee plus 6 thousand leva and a number of experts from the People's Republic of Bulgaria. In the past period of over a year they were able to prepare 65 percent of the material and technical base, e.g., concrete, [construction stone], crushed stone, sand, dug-up dirt, dirt for filling, and other necessary construction equipment. Comrade Balian continued by saying that now they were mobilizing all the abilities of the cadres and workers and were closely cooperating with the creative work system of the board of directors. This material and technical base production is expected to be finished before this coming dry season for 1984-1985. After that they will start to build a dike to block off water and the front of the dam. During this period they will encounter many difficulties, e.g., [the shore where they are going to block off the water is hard], and both river banks are high. It could be difficult to dig for water drainage pipes when the front of the dam is being constructed. Also, the vehicles used in constructing the hydropower plant are old-fashioned and inadequate. Moreover, the cadres and workers have not had previous experience in specialized [technical] tasks. It is certain that they will not be able to avoid mistakes every hour and day of the actual work. However, they still have one high-level engineer and one high-level equivalent, two mid-level equivalents, and a number of Bulgarian experts. Because of our attention in carrying out different principles regarding the workers, e.g., salary, remuneration for those who have accomplished a lot, fire protection, wages, and welfare in the past, their work performance is strong and enthusiastic. This is demonstrated by their monthly income of 1200 to 1600 [kip] and higher. The ones who get the least receive at least 900 kip, even though their highest base salary is only 380 to 400 kip. Along with this

outstanding factor, the mass organizations and especially the trade union organization have a [major] role in being a model in working on the contract on weekends, resulting in accomplishing the work of the project very well. Seeing this work we firmly believe the construction of a dike and this dam will be completed within 16 months or by February to March of 1986. Then the whole project will be 100 percent completed.

According to the technicians regarding the electricity that will be produced by this project, in the dry season this hydropower plant will distribute 230 to 320 kW and 460 kW in the rainy season, and it will save 300 to 350 tons of fuel oil per year. This calculation is only for lighting. Meanwhile, they have also improved the water system for cadres and workers in offices around the province, and were also able to build a mid-size fish pond in the provincial municipality. Besides improving the standard of living of society, these benefits also bring beauty to the district. Along the Nong At bank is a good location for hotels, restaurants, and public parks, and for a vacation and sightseeing area for the province in order to promote socio-economic and cultural growth in the locality.

9884

CSO: 4206/153

'FREE SOUL' IMEE CONTRASTS WITH PRESIDENT, FIRST LADY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 1 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by Mariano M. Florido, former CFI Judge, in the "From the Center" column: "The Legend About Imee Marcos"]

[Text] In my consistent criticism about the Marcos dictatorship, which began about four years ago, I have always spared the Marcos children, specially Imee Marcos who has distanced herself from her father and mother in their political ambitions, even arguing against them on matters of national policies and the art of government.

It is said that Imee's occasional differences with the First Lady are a legend in Manila. During a reception for Pope John Paul II in Malacanang her mother had asked all women to come in cream, high-necked butterfly style terno. Imee, in defiance of her mother wore a low-necked dress with little jewellery. She is always a free soul. During one Malacanang function, Imee defied her mother again who wanted her to wear jewellery. "I don't like it, mommy. It's not me," she protested. Imee does not have the air of royalties. She is very simple and does not wear make-up, a far cry from her mother's flamboyance and love of wealth and diamonds.

Imee, without her powerful parents' consent contracted marriage in a secret civil ceremony in the United States with Tomas Manotoc, a known Marcos political dissenter. Marcos' strong objection to the marriage was because Manotoc is a divorcee whose first wife Aurotoa "Au Au" Pijuan, a former beauty queen, is one of prominent Filipino oppositionists to the Marcos regime.

Imee's first love is the theatre. She has displayed no love of politics. Why did she run for assemblywoman in Ilocos Norte in the last May 14 elections? Many believe that it was due to the promptings of the President and the First Lady, who want Imee to involve herself in the political affairs of her country. Imee is a very bright student of law at the College of Law, University of the Philippines, where she graduated with honors.

Imee is a graduate of Princeton University in New Jersey where she graduated in political science and religion. She took the Bar last year and perhaps is now a full-fledged lawyer. There is no question that she can well represent her province in the Batasan.

There is now a move in the Batasan that in case the reelection bid of Prime Minister Cesar A. Virata is rejected, Assemblywoman Imee Marcos Manotoc be nominated for the post of Prime Minister.

A big scandal will tarnish President Marcos' image here and abroad if such nomination will materialize. It will complete the creation of a Marcos dynasty in the structure of the Philippine autocracy.

I don't think Imee will accept the nomination. She is a very resolute and dynamic woman unlike her mother who pledged to resign all her positions in the government but accepted a reappointment as Minister of Human Settlements and Metro Manila governor.

Imee is made of sterner stuff. She would not be a party to a big scandal even if her father, the President, would urge her to. At one time she called her father "very funny," and perhaps even clumsy in handling the national problems.

If Marcos still values his name in the council of free nations, he would not nominate his own daughter, Imee, who is only 28 years old and a neophyte in politics, to be a Prime Minister with him as President. I think the move is an illusion of sycophant.

If, however, the move becomes a reality, woe to the Philippines; woe to Marcos and woe to Imee, whom I consider a very intelligent and reasonable lady.

CSO: 4200/970

PRESIDENCY TAKES OVER POWER TO NAME RECEIVERSHIPS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 Aug 84 p 18

[Article by Antonio G. Macapagal]

[Text] The Office of the President has taken over from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) the power to appoint receivers in insolvent or cash-strapped local companies.

Under a revised arrangement, according to top SEC officials, the power of the SEC has been limited to merely recommending receivers for troubled firms, particularly finance companies that solicit investments (money market placements) from the public.

The SEC officials, however, did not disclose whether the new arrangement was effected through a presidential decree or letter-of-instructions.

The SEC has recommended to Malacanang the appointment of receivers for at least four troubled finance companies: Mercantile Finance, Inc; Filcor Finance, Inc; Capital Funding and Finance Corp, and Pacific Orient Finance Corp.

Meantime, SEC Chairman Manuel A. Abello yesterday said the commission will dismiss the petition for receivership filed by the First Inter-Corporate Finance and Investments Corp (First Intercorp) because the main petitioner, "Cesar A. Blanch, has left the country for good."

He said the firm is beyond rehabilitation, meaning its only option is for its liquidation.

The firm's P60-million debts exceed its assets worth P28 million.

Earlier, the SEC also ruled that it shall henceforth refrain from appointing receivers in troubled companies unless they are qualified for rehabilitation.

Insolvent companies without hope of rehabilitation shall, therefore, be immediately liquidated, the SEC said.

The same official sources commented that the Palace's intervention in the appointment of receivers in financially-troubled companies "was timely and necessary in the face of mounting complaints against receivers of ailing enterprises."

Specially critical of receivers in a string of finance firms are the creditors/investors, whose combined placements locked-in in the financing units are estimated at about P5 billion.

The creditors claimed that receivers of failed finance companies, for instance, have appeared to be "slow" in implementing rehabilitation programs for the troubled firms.

One example they have repeatedly cited is the case of the Philippine Underwriters Finance Corp (Philfinance) which the SEC placed under receivership three years ago.

Receivers for the firm have yet to make a final decision whether to rehabilitate or liquidate the company, in which some P700-million worth of money market placements are locked-in.

CSO: 4200/970

SULTAN URGES NEGOTIATIONS WITH MUSLIM REBELS

HK211540 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Aug 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Sultan Hadji Amirullah S. Mangelen, supreme head of Amirul Din Islam al-Philippines, suggested the creation of a peace mission by President Marcos to negotiate with the Muslim rebels in Mindanao.

Mangelen said the mission should be composed of sincere Muslim leaders.

Mangelen made the suggestion as he appealed to the military to immediately stop the use of fighter planes and helicopter gunships in any operations against Muslim rebels.

He said air strikes cause heavy damage not only to the rebels but also to the lives and property of civilians.

The sultan said the military should learn a lesson from its experiences during the past conflicts in Mindanao. He added that military men know "that they cannot push the Muslims to the wall or force them to surrender against the enemies of Islam."

He also asked Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun to organize a committee composed of Muslim assemblymen to look into the killings in Mindanao, determine the root causes of the conflicts, and report to higher authorities.

The creation of the mission is urgent, the sultan said, because if the conflict continues, the civilian population, composed of Muslims and Christians, would suffer the brunt of the fighting.

He added that the Muslim conflict could be solved easily if the "government is sincere in the implementation of the Tripoli Agreement."

CSO: 4200/980

NPA TAXES SAID FOUR TIMES HIGHER THAN GOVERNMENT RATE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Aug 84 p 32

[Article by Owen Masaganda]

[Text]

CLAVERIA, Masbate — Cattle-raisers and coconut producers here have denounced the New People's Army (NPA) for reportedly collecting from them taxes four times higher than government rates.

They said for non-payment of the taxes, rebels either harass or kill them.

Rogelio Montenegro, president of Montenegro Development Corp. which operates 411 hectares of pasture land in sitio Iraya, told Brig. Gen. Jose S. Alcañeses, Bicol regional unified commander, that the NPA have asked for bullets, food and medicine.

Last Monday, Alcañeses visited the Montenegro farm, which the NPA had reportedly set on fire last month after they did not get their demands.

Alcañeses also supervised the airlifting of a

woman suspected to be a rebel who was wounded in an encounter with men of the special action company last Sunday in barangay Buyo, Claveria, Masbate.

Four rebels were killed, five others were captured, and a soldier was wounded in the encounter.

A captured suspected rebel, Rogelio Armenion, said the leader of the 15-man NPA band known as "Ka Boyet" fired his carbine rifle and hit Constable Bali Jumahali. "Ka Boyet" escaped together with his aides, Armenion said.

Alcañeses ordered Col. Dictado Palquisia, Masbate PC commander, to conduct sea-borne patrols after he received reports that rebels were crossing from Pio Duran, Albay, Donsol, Sorsogon to this island to collect taxes from cattle-raisers and producers at the end of every month. (Owen Masaganda)

CENTRAL BANK PLANS TO RELAX DEPOSIT RULES

HK171520 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 17 Aug 84 p 2

[Text] The Central Bank is planning to relax the legal prohibition against government deposits in private banks, as a way to minimize its advances to cash-starved banks, sources in banking said.

Government corporations and agencies are required to deposit their funds only with government banks and other financial institutions. This requirement is provided for in Letter of Instructions No 1115, issued in early 1981. However, the LOI states that the president or the CB's policy-making Monetary Board can authorize government deposits with private banks "for justifiable reasons."

The sources aid the CB, to avoid giving emergency loans to banks, plans to allow government entities to deposit with private banks that badly need cash. CB emergency advances and loans to needy banks effectively increase the money supply, which the CB wants to reduce under one of its commitments to the International Monetary Fund.

Bankers said that if the CB's only intention in allowing government deposits with private banks is to help those with cash shortage problems, it is crucial that the Monetary Board limits its approval strictly to needy banks.

They believe that LOI No 1115 was intended to prevent connivance between government entities and private banks.

Before the LOI was issued, the CB found that a government agency had recorded in its books and interest earning from its deposits with a private financial institution that was less than what the private institution actually paid. There was no trace of where remainder of the interest earning had gone.

Another consideration would be that a private bank's gain in deposits from government entities would mean a corresponding loss to government banks. Bankers said the government banks may suffer cash problems if the government will withdraw portions of its deposits with them. State-owned Development Bank of the Philippines and Philippine National Bank are currently having

financial problems. DBP has had to dispose of its assets foreclosed from borrowers, even at bargain prices, to help meet its cash needs. PNB also had to find a way to cover deficiencies in its legally required reserve, which is a percentage of the deposits it holds.

Bankers also worry if the CB will allow government deposits in private banks, a consequence might be that there would be an easier way for government to take over private banks. They note that if the government puts time deposits in a bank, it will specify the date it can take out its funds from the bank. If the bank still needs the government money when the deposit matures, government could easily ask for a conversion of the deposit into equity in the bank, bankers said.

CSO: 4200/980

EDITORIAL ON DANGERS TO KBL IN COLLANTES SANCTIONS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Collantes' Case"]

[Text]

The KBL party moguls are after the neck of Batangas KBL MP Manuel Collantes. For voting against the reelection of Prime Minister Virata, the majority party leaders are threatening to expel him from the party.

It appears that the party would like to make an example of MP Collantes to impress upon the minds of all other party members that disobeying any party decision is punishable.

The expulsion of the Batangas MP, or any other KBL solon, for a similar offense, is a matter not to be taken lightly because the use of this disciplinary weapon may boomerang. There are many KBL assemblymen who are not only liberal-minded but also independent, like Minister of Foreign Affairs Arturo Tolentino who, on many an occasion, has not only disagreed with party decisions but has even gone to the point of attacking publicly his party and his party chief, President Marcos.

In fact, Tolentino, with his fiercely independent nature, has led the KBL to adopt changes contrary to the President's thinking, the most significant being last February's constitutional amendment restoring the Office of Vice-President.

If the KBL had been strict in forcing all its members to always toe the party line, then MP Tolentino would have been out of the party a long time ago.

In the case of Assemblyman Collantes, right from the start, he has shown signs of being a party rebel, from the time he refused to take his oath of office before the President together with all other party assemblymen-elect then present in Malacanang. And he has been quite vocal about his independent convictions in the press.

In opting to apply disciplinary sanctions against non-conforming members, the KBL must also consider the long-term effect on the party. As the times become more difficult and acts of repression against the people increase, particularly from the military, more MPs of the party in power will not be able to help themselves but speak out against their own KBL government.

Moreover, many in the party feel that they owe their election not so much to their party as to their own personal political strength, and that their primary loyalty is not to the party but to the people who voted them into power.

Considering all these, plus the realization that the KBL and the Marcos government, are on the way down as indicated by the last election trends, many KBL assemblymen will feel they would rather speak out their minds than earn the unenviable reputation of being mere "yes" men to their party.

Indeed, any party decision on the Collantes case is fraught with risk to the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan.

CSO: 4200/970

MALAYA PUBLISHER VIEWS JOURNALIST'S STATEMENT ON SILENCING DISSENT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Aug 84 p 4

[Commentary by Jose G. Burgos, Jr in "Publisher's Notes": "The Muzzle Is Cast Aside"]

[Text] I view with alarm and unabashed joy the collective statement of some 250 journalists against what they consider the "recent developments which threaten the freedom of journalists to report and comment on issues of public importance."

The statement was, by far, the strongest outpouring of protest against the systematic and blatant silencing of legitimate dissent from the very professionals who are both the perpetrators and victims of the Marcos scheme of brainwashing.

But why alarm? Simply because with the open and unvarnished attack against the very establishment which was nurtured by the crippling years of martial law, our newspapermen will now have to face up to the consequences of their intransigence, their defiance. The signatories of the statement, mind you, are not mere reporters or ordinary writers. Almost all the editors of both the alternative and--hold your breath--establishment newspapers, affixed their signatures on that powerful piece of paper and perhaps, even sealed their fate with it. I am deeply concerned over the repercussions that are bound to happen and, as in the past, some of them could be unceremoniously fired or retired by their own publishers. And every one knows that publishers of the controlled media are mere puppets of the Top Man--and Woman--in Malacanang.

I, too, have gone through the ordeal now being suffered by our colleagues Domini Torrevilla-Suarez and Mauro Avena, editor and writer, respectively of Panorama magazine. The case of the two respected journalists who are now facing multi-million libel suits filed by Ambassador Eduardo Cojuangco and AFP Chief of Staff Fabian Ver, sparked the vehement denunciation by our fellow journalists.

On the other hand, I am very much relieved by the show of force of our colleagues in the media. They have stood up to be counted. And are now willing to face the risks of their insubordination.

In coming out with the statement, they have virtually vindicated themselves for their actions in the past i.e., having allowed themselves to be used by the powers-that-be in prostituting the journalism profession. Their statement is actually a public confession and more significantly, an atonement for their previous sins of omission and commission.

I remember that when beleaguered Panorama editor Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc was forced to resign, her case stirred unrest among Filipino journalists. For the first time in the history of the National Press Club, a convention was held not only to express the press club members' moral support to Letty but also to denounce the stifling of press freedom. But not all were very vocal against the issue then involved: the right of the journalist to practice his profession without fear or favor.

The recent statement of concern of the 250 journalists which was published a few days ago in the controlled media and in yesterday's Malaya, is far-reaching and more frontal than the case affecting Ms Magsanoc.

That is why I feel utter joy over this latest development engendered by our friends in the press, re-asserting their rights to free press and unbridled information. This is, indeed, cause for celebration. Let's toast our drinks to our fellow members in the profession who have finally cast aside their muzzle. Let us continue the struggle.

CSO: 4200/970

WFTU AFFILIATE DENIES COMMUNIST FRONT ALLEGATIONS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 1 Aug 84 p 3

[Article: "We're Not Reds--WFTU"]

[Text] A labor federation yesterday decried its being unjustly branded as a front of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

In its letter to Malaya, the National Association of Trade Unions-World Federation of Trade Unions (NATU-WFTU) denied the allegations made by a columnist in the July 24 issue of Bulletin Today.

In his column, Jesus Bigornia quoted The Hague-based M.I.R. Foundation that "the WFTU is possibly the Soviet Union's most disciplined and subservient front."

Speaking for his federation, NATU-WFTU president Vicente S. Bate said, "NATU has been affiliated with WFTU since 1962 and we can say through the long years of association that it is firmly committed to freedom and democracy."

Bate added, "Significantly, every time labor gets restless and militant, the agents against freedom and democracy through their mouthpieces start an orchestrated campaign to raise communist bugaboo and malign legitimate dissent."

"The issues in all the strikes and demonstrations are very real things like low wages, unemployment, high prices and foreign dictation," Bate said. "If our people are satisfied and happy, even...Marx and Lenin...by themselves would not be able to force our people to go on strike and demonstrate."

In his letter to the Bulletin editor, Bate expressed surprise "that Mr Bigornia...doesn't know that there are several federations which are openly and legally operating in our country that are affiliated with the WFTU, and yet he seems to know the supposed clandestine operations of the WFTU."

CSO: 4200/970

RUC COMMANDER DECLARES 'NO MILITARY PROBLEM' IN MINDANAO

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 1 Aug 84 pp 1, 7

[Text] Brig Gen Jaime C. Echeverria, commanding general of the Regional Unified Command here, has declared that there is no military problem in southern Mindanao despite a big subversive push to turn "red" the country's third largest region.

He issued the statement yesterday in a barangay dialog at the Mintal Central Elementary School in Tugbok district.

The dialog was attended by KBL regional chairman Don Antonio O. Floirendo, Mayor Elias B. Lopez, Brig Gen Artemio Tadiar, Jr of the Philippine Marines, barangay officials and representatives of the clergy.

Echeverria, however, warned that southern Mindanao was a primary target of the Communist Party's Komite Mindanao, which has deployed 3 of its 5 party committees here. "That's how badly they want to get hold of our region," he said.

RUC: "No...

Unravelling more of the sinister communist plot, the general said that the outlawed CPP tried to launch Phase Two--"strategic stalemate"--of its protracted people's war in 1983. The plan called for the isolation of the military from the people by restricting them to camp movement.

This plan was foiled by the deployment of infantry battalions like those of the 3rd Marine Brigade, he said.

To put more heart into the anti-subversion drive, Echeverria said that these same troops were given special training on human relations. "That's why military operations are now followed by relief assistance for displaced civilians by both military and civilian agencies."

The subversives are back to "square one," waging a hide-and-seek campaign against government troopers, Echeverria assured.

"Our main headache is basically polite in nature," he said, citing the country's penal system as "too soft" against habitual criminals.

The anti-masiao drive, for example, is running into snags "because the crooks we catch are set free on bail the day after, free to start masiao all over again," he said.--(JAC)

CSO: 4200/970

MINDANAO TRIBES REJECT MINISTRY INCLUSION WITH MUSLIMS

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 1 Aug 84 pp 1, 10

[Article by Roger Flaviano]

[Text] Majority of the hilltribes refused to be integrated with the Muslims under the newly created ministry, the Ministry of Cultural Communities, headed by Minister Simeon A. Datumanong.

This sentiment was registered by tribal leaders of Mindanao, particularly in region XI, in the wake of the fusion of the PANAMIN into the Ministry of Cultural Communities.

Kidapawan Vice-Mayor Joseph Sibug, president of the Mindanao Highlanders, said that unlike the highlanders the Muslims have never been considered as cultural minorities because of their high literacy, culture and the attention and benefits that they get from the government.

Sibug said the defunct Commission on National Integration (CNI), headed by its then Secretary Mama Sinsuat, also a Muslim, had precisely failed to integrate the minorities with the Muslims in the past.

In fact, he added, not one from the leaders of the cultural minorities had ever congratulated or praised the appointment of Datumanong to the ministry of cultural communities because the minorities do not like to relish the idea of being led by a Muslim. Datumanong is a Muslim Maguindanaoan.

Besides, it was pointed out, that even the Muslims cannot live together in one community if they come from different Muslim tribes.

A Tausog for instance, it was claimed, refused to live in a community where the tribes are mostly Maranaos or vice-versa.

Some tribal leaders also deplored that Datumanong has appointed a deputy minister from Northern Luzon who is an Igorot and the second deputy minister that he is intending to appoint will also be a Muslim from Mindanao.

The tribal leaders claimed that President Marcos failed to consult or feel the pulse of the cultural minorities before appointing Datumanong to head the cultural communities.

The tribal leaders of the minorities have expressed preference for a separate government agency that would minister the problems of the cultural minorities "because only a cultural minority can understand the problems of the cultural minorities."

"We thought our problems have been over with the non-reappointment of (Manda) Elizalde, but now our problems have been compounded," they said.

The tribal leaders claimed there are about six million population of cultural minorities compared to the Muslim population of only about 4 million.

CSO: 4200/970

FILM BEARS 'STRIKING SIMILARITIES' TO AGRAVA BOARD

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 1 Aug 84 pp 3, 10

[Commentary by Migs Enriquez, Jr in the "Believe Me Or Not" column: "'I for Icarus,' Philippine Style"]

[Text] It is a wonder how the movie "I for Icarus" had passed the scrutinizing eyes of the members of the Board of Censors. Other foreign films pregnant with political implications which were not as explosive in political meaning and significance were banned in Philippine theaters. With the Agrava Board in the midst of its deliberations on the assassination of Senator Benigno Aquino Jr, the administration cannot afford to risk courting public uproar in the event the multi-million peso investigation will find Rolando Galman as the sole person responsible for the brutal murder.

Indeed, viewing the movie which has been arresting the attention of the nation and which has been the topic of passionate discussion in relation to the fact-finding investigation of this nation's most celebrated murder case, one cannot help but notice striking similarities. Like the movie, the subject of the assassin's bullet was a prominent political figure. An investigation board was appointed to conduct the investigation, the actual killer got scot-free while the fall guy was immediately executed. Moreover, national security personnel were involved in the plot.

It remains to be seen if the Agrava Board will also suppress vital evidence to whitewash the case. It is also not certain if some members of the board were given definite instructions on how to decide the case.

Truth to tell, the Agrava Board is in an extremely difficult situation. In spite of a special television program prepared by the administration to condition the minds of the people that Galman was Aquino's killer and that the communists were behind the plot to murder Aquino, the overwhelming majority of the public which followed closely the Agrava hearings have already reached the conclusion that Rolando Galman could not have killed Aquino and that the circumstances surrounding the case point to a conspiracy that deeply involved high-ranking military officers.

The farcical and ridiculous testimonies presented by the military to lay the blame on the communists for Aquino's murder had only aroused the suspicion of the public that the military has something to do with the killing. The more witnesses the military presented to the board, the more incredible its theory has become. And the absence of a direct evidence pointing to Aquino's real assassin only confirmed the conviction that vital and damaging evidence had been suppressed.

The public had long been convinced that the Agrava investigation is a waste of time and money and that it cannot proclaim a finding contrary to the wishes of the establishment. But what we would like to happen is a dissenter in the board who will not be afraid to risk his life and fortune for the sake of truth.

In the meantime, let us keep our fingers crossed and pray that in the end truth will not only be revealed but will prevail.

CSO: 4200/970

U.S. 'SECOND THOUGHTS' ON CLIENT DICTATORS HAILED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Aug 84 p 6

[Commentary by Benedicto David: "Backlash"]

[Text] In Guatemala, an estimated 35,000 have disappeared over the past nine years...about half over the past six years. These people who were vocal against government abuses and who fought for labour union rights were seized by armed men (presumably government) and simply disappeared.

Attempts to locate them have proved rather futile and unless the armed forces there decide to release them or point out their graves, they will be missing forever.

In Argentina, the same drama is unfolding, but this time, it is years after the disappearances and the men who once held power have been toppled.

Former Argentine military President Jorge Rafael Videla was ordered arrested after he testified on the killing, torture, kidnaping, and murder of thousands of political detainees from 1976 when he led a coup to last December when he was toppled by President Raul Alfonsin after nearly eight years of ruling by decree and dispelling dissension by violence and murder.

These two new items appeared in the same issue of yesterday's Bulletin, a clear indication of the way things are going to go for dictatorial leaders of client states of the United States in the Latin American sector.

It would appear that despite announced support for any anti-Communist leader in that "Monroe Doctrine" area, Washington is having very serious second thoughts about the effect that the announced policy has on its global image. Washington is apparently going after the ruthless dictators that kept the "revolutionary" movements at bay at the cost of murdering, torturing and/or kidnapping tens of thousands of helpless individuals who only wanted their rights respected by the government.

Apparently, some sort of common sense has seeped into the deep recesses of Foggy Bottom and has affected enough "experts" to make Washington realize that it cannot possibly win in the fight for men's minds and hearts while they support heartless and mindless criminals who are vested with government

authority. This, despite the fact that the rulers are anti-communists. It has apparently realized that such a policy only makes communism in Latin America more desirable than the type of "anti-communist democracy" that has been imposed on several Latin American countries over the past decades.

In the past, the United States government was apparently operating on the theory that "he may be an SOB, but he is our SOB." Clearly that policy has not worked and has only united the people aspiring for the same freedoms the Americans enjoy against the Washington government and has lined them up with the Cuban and Soviet-backed liberation movements. Equally clearly, the American government is now trying to find more acceptable and milder leaders to support, men who will do their bidding but who are palatable to their own people.

Since the Monroe Doctrine was foisted on the Latin American continent in the 19th century, the thrust of American policy seemed to be one of sheer exploitation, with a portion of the massive profits being returned as "aid" to the peoples of the despoiled economies.

We are happy to note the change and we hope that this may become THE policy for the next 50 years (if the human race lasts that long). If the big powers compel the practice of being humane to the masses, then the client states will have no choice but to comply.

A new pattern for the client states is apparently emerging at long last and this may yet salvage the terribly tarnished image of Uncle Sam in the Third World.

Cruelty, whether pro-or anti-communist, is cruelty. Bullets and death have no ideology.

CSO: 4200/970

ARABIA REPORTS DRIVE AGAINST MNLF, URGES MALAYSIAN 'SOLIDARITY'

East Burnham ARABIA: THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English No 36, Aug 84
pp 70, 71

[Text] The ruling party's poor showing in the recent polls and increasing links between rural and urban opposition groups in the south of the country have spurred President Marcos' latest drive against the Moro Mujahideen.

Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos has launched a sweeping programme to combat the jihad in the south of the country. Military operations against the Moro Mujahideen in Mindanao and Sulu have been intensified and political bribery to win over dissident leaders of the Moro National Liberation Front and other Muslim revolutionary groups stepped up.

The most immediate reason for the government's reviving hostilities against the Mindanao Mujahideen is the growing strength of the MNLF in the region and its heightened liaison with the urban-based opposition parties. The Manila government admitted in June that Mindanao was in a state of fear and that many towns were under Mujahideen control. This government assessment followed a seven-day tour by Defence Minister Juan P. Enrile.

According to sources in Manila, immediately after the defence minister's visit the government sent nearly 60 percent of the 275,000-strong armed forces to Mindanao and Sulu, as well as about 200 pilots. Several units of the Integrated National Police (INP), the Integrated Civil Home Defence Forces (ICHDF), and the Ilagas, a separate armed organisation, are being dispatched to the Cotabato, Lanao and Zomboanga districts of Mindanao and Sulu.

On the other hand, the president has appointed Simen Datumanong, a Muslim member of the national assembly from the Mindanao region, minister of natural resources. The government has also promised Jerry Salapuddin, a former member of MNLF high rewards for his services towards the "restoration of peace and order" in the region. Salapuddin, who visited Marcos on June 20, had earlier been granted amnesty by the president in return for betraying the MNLF. It seems that Manila's present strategy is to win over as many Muslims as possible before launching a full-scale offensive.

That such an offensive is in the offing is confirmed by Marcos's recent statements about the turbulent situation in the south of the country. However, he wants to ensure that this military action does not affect relations with oil-rich Gulf states.

Marcos said in June that the growth of the "communist rebellion" in the Philippines was responsible for the present anarchic state of affairs in the south. It is obvious that the president is trying to convince Muslims both inside and outside the country that the proposed military operation in Mindanao and Sulu would in fact be directed against the communist rebels who, it is alleged, are supported by the Moro National Liberation Front.

This is an old government ploy to discredit the MNLF leadership. Not so long ago, Major General Delfin Castro alleged in an interview that the government had "discovered" a common military and civil administration in the south. He added that Nur Misuari, chairman of the MNLF had been a communist since the 1960s. In fact, Nur Misuari and the one-time Communist Party chairman, Jose Sison, studied together at the university of the Philippines in the early 1960s.

The New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), is active in Baguio, Luzon, and the rugged Samar terrain. It has also gained influence in the West Visayan islands of Negros and Panay. The communist influence in the region grew prior to 1976, while the government was occupied in confronting the MNLF in Mindanao and Sulu. In fact, one of the most compelling reasons for the Marcos regime to sign the Tripoli Agreement with the MNLF was the NPA threat. When this was neutralised, the government ignored the agreement with its provisos for an autonomous Muslim state in Mindanao. Instead it redeployed large contingents of army troops in the island, and has since spread propaganda to the effect that the MNLF is mainly a communist front which is assuming an Islamic identity to gain sympathy in the Muslim world.

According to reports, insurgent communist groups have approached the MNLF several times in the past, hoping to organise joint military activities against the Marcos regime. However, there is no military cooperation between the two guerilla movements, which are fighting for diametrically opposed sets of values. Marcos has used the NPA insurgency and the MNLF jihad to justify institutionalising his dictatorial powers and to gain political support from the West.

Since the recent elections, in which the opposition made significant gains, a popular movement to dismantle the Marcos dictatorship has been growing in urban areas. Moreover, the opposition umbrella group--the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (Unido)--and the other major opposition faction, the Philippino Democratic Party Lakas ng Bayan (PDP Laban) coalition, have expressed sympathy with the MNLF and the NPA.

If the anti-Marcos movement gains momentum in urban areas, and pressure from the rural guerrillas of the MNLF and the NPA grows, it will be difficult for the Marcos family to ensure its succession. Consequently Marcos wants to divert the country's attention from Manila to Mindanao, which might work to his advantage in a number of ways.

By accusing it of treachery in supporting the separatist groups in the south he might outwit the opposition, and stands to gain western sympathies by fighting against the communist menace which could jeopardise western economic interests if allowed to grow unchecked. He will attempt to turn Muslim sympathy against the MNLF by declaring it a communist ally and will try to crush the jihad in Mindanao before it spreads to other Muslim parts of the region and drives the army out.

The jihad has been going on in the south since 1968. Unlike other liberation movements in the region, the jihad in Mindanao and Sulu is fully backed by the local people who, under the threat of losing their Islamic identity, have joined the MNLF and other Muslim militant groups in armed struggle against the Marcos regime. Marcos has tried to deter Muslims from continuing their jihad by stepping up military operations in the south but has failed so far, and it is unlikely that the renewed action against the Moro Mujahideen will succeed now.

The Philippine army's morale is apparently very low, through fighting a war which shows no sign of coming to an end. New recruits are reportedly afraid of entering the jungle to combat the Moro Mujahideen, and this growing demoralisation has given them new hope.

The Moro Mujahideen expect support from Muslim countries. Malaysia and Indonesia, neighbouring Muslim states and partners in Asean, can play a major role in this respect. Malaysia, which claims to be moving towards Islamicising state and society, needs to show its solidarity with the Moro Mujahideen, which are fighting for Islam. Now that he is in a position of power, Anwar Ibrahim, a Malaysian minister who had supported the Moro cause when a leader of Abim, should persuade his government to support the Moro Mujahideen by decisive political action.

CSO: 4200/982

SEC FIGURES SHOW FOREIGN INVESTMENT INCREASE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 Aug 84 p 18

[Text]

FOREIGN investments in local companies (existing and newly-organized) during the first half of the year have reached P270.9 million, Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) data show.

This year's figures reflected a P129.3 million increase over the P141.6-million investments of foreigners registered in the same period last year.

Of the total foreign capital infused in domestic enterprises from January-June this year, about P248.1 million represented additional investments in existing business firms.

Last year, reinvestments of foreign capital only totaled P121.2 million.

Foreign investments in new enterprises this year reached P22.8 million or slightly more than last year's P2.4 million.

Some P16.5-million worth of foreign capital, however, was pulled out of the economic mainstream during the period when five local companies with foreign investors ceased operations.

AMERICANS were top this year in terms of making additional investments in existing firms, fol-

lowed by the Japanese.

Additional American investments went to the following: Philippine American Life Insurance Co. (Philamlife), Republic Chemical Industries, Inc. and Wyeth Laboratories.

Electro Alloy Corp., manufacturers of ferro alloy, got additional capital from their Japanese investors.

For June alone, foreign equity in 10 existing firms aggregated P80.7 million. The bulk of this capital worth P42.3 million was placed in Mobil (Phils.) Inc. by Mobil Petroleum Co., Inc., while P21 million in additional capital was infused by foreign shareholders in the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI).

New enterprises got P2.2 million of the total foreign capital inflow in June.

The formation of 39 new entities in June brought to 7,758 the total number of incorporated firms with foreign equity since 1970.

Also, there are now 997 licensed foreign corporations and 893 regional headquarters of multinationals engaged in business here as of end-June.

JAPANESE OFFICIAL VISITS, ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE EXPLORED

'Bold Measures' Recommended

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Aug 84 pp 1, 10

[Article by Brenda P. Tuazon]

[Text]

Japan, aside from its \$250-million commodity loan to the Philippines, would like to find out how it can further help the country overcome its economic difficulties.

Dr. Saburo Okita, former Japanese foreign affairs minister and a noted economist who has written dozens of books on economics, will meet President Marcos today to discuss, among others, additional Japanese assistance.

Dr. Okita, who arrived in Manila Wednesday from Brunei, said that the No. 1 requirement for the economy would be the restoration of confidence.

"I notice that inflation is very high, 50 percent more than last year, which is a big problem," he said. "And also the balance of payments deficit and servicing of foreign debt. So that this economy is facing rather serious sets of problems."

"We also heard of the size of capital flight from the Philippines," he said. "Hence, the important thing is to build confidence in the economy."

Dr. Okita said the country has strong potentials: "I have visited the Philippines more than 10 times in the past, and I know that for a fact — so that the question here is how to tackle the temporary crisis of difficulty."

Setting limits to liquidity is one big question, he said, as he took note of the Central Bank rescue of troubled banks: "If you do not give loans to banks, there may be bankruptcies, but if you loosen credit, there will be inflation. This is certainly a hard choice on the part of the Central Bank and the government."

Dr. Okita said the government must, however, take bold measures, even measures unpopular with the public, to hold down inflation.

"Without such measures, confidence will not be restored," he said. "Without confidence, the economy will continue to destabilize."

He said that to weather the crisis, it would also be necessary to borrow from foreign countries as well as international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank.

He said that the recent Japanese commodity loan of \$250 million, which has a 20-year term, a five-year grace period, and an interest rate of 3.5 percent, should help the government buy commodities to sell to the public and to use the money for various projects.

"Of course, Japan's loan alone cannot solve your problem," he said, as he cited other sources which could help.

"But without discipline in the government policies for limiting liquidity and concentrating the use

of foreign exchange for essential imports and also preventing capital flight, foreign banks may not be quite willing to come to the rescue," he said.

He said the government must explain to the people that "we must undergo temporary hardships for the sake of establishing credit worthiness for the country, and refrain from luxuries and if these can be done, your future will be a better one."

He said that by limiting liquidity, stabilizing prices, limiting imports to essentials and preventing capital flight, "confidence will no doubt be restored."

"Once confidence is restored, the international community will give positive assistance which will ease domestic problems," he said. "The important thing is to change the vicious cycle to virtuous cycle."

He said that being neighbors and "with our historical ties, we are very concerned with the economic conditions here. We are concerned with

the hardships of the people and we expect a disciplined policy of government to eventually succeed."

Noting that Japanese exports to the Philippines have gone down, Dr. Okita said this is normal: "The Philippines must limit imports because of the serious shortage of foreign exchange. That is why I said imports should be confined to essentials."

He observed some recovery of Philippine exports to Japan.

Admitting that the Japanese farm lobby places barriers for Japanese imports of farm products, he said his government has removed some barriers, citing the reduction of tariffs on bananas. The Philippines is a major exporter of bananas to Japan.

He said the Japanese government would continue facilitating Philippine farm exports: "The government policy now is definitely to open Japan's markets as much as possible."

Dr. Okita said that the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations "are a primary area of interest for Japan," and that the ASEAN voice is heard in the international community, in Japan, North America and Europe. He is on a tour of ASEAN countries.

Dr. Okita, born 1914 in Dairen, China, is a Ramon Magsaysay awardee for international understanding and president of the Rizal Society of Japan. He will meet the Knights of Rizal of which Ambassador Jose S. Laurel III is the supreme commander.

He met yesterday with an old friend, Prime Minister Cesar Virata, as well as Minister of Trade Roberto Ongpin.

Dr. Okita is a member of the Advisory Council to the Office of Trade and Investments Ombudsman and also of the Japan-United States Advisory Commission.

Japan Committed to Additional Aid

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Aug 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Brenda P. Tuazon]

[Text]

Japan is committed to give additional economic assistance to the Philippines when the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approves the \$650-million standby credit line.

Dr. Saburo Okita, former Japanese foreign affairs minister and head of a Japanese economic mission, announced the commitment in a press conference after his meeting with President Mar-

cos in Malacañang Friday morning.

The IMF loan approval, according to Dr. Okita, will be the "Good-Housekeeping" seal of approval for the Philippine government.

In the meantime, he said, Japan would continue to lower tariff for farm products, including those from the Philippines.

Dr. Okita, a noted economist, said earlier that

tariff on bananas, a major Philippine export to Japan, was already reduced.

He said that even now, Japan's tariff duties on farm products stood at 3 percent compared with America's 4 percent and Europe's 5 percent.

"In spite of the already lower tariff duties, Japan is committed to further lower the tariff rates to expand Philippine imports, especially agricultural farm products," Dr. Okita said.

Dr. Okita had earlier admitted that the Japanese farm lobby places barriers to greater Japanese imports of farm products. But, he added, "Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has been dealing effectively with the Japanese farm lobby."

As for the rigid test conducted by Japanese customs and other agencies on imports, Dr. Okita

said that these tests would be simplified and made less stringent.

Dr. Okita, an old friend of Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, also met with Prime Minister Cesar E.A. Virata and Minister of Trade and Industry Roberto Ongpin who expressed their gratitude to the visiting Japanese official for Japan's readiness to extend all-out assistance to the Philippines at this time.

Okita and his party left for Tokyo yesterday after a 10-day swing of Southeast Asian countries, including the Philippines, on a fact-finding mission.

Dr. Okita, who was a Ramon Magsaysay awardee for International Understanding and president of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), is also a member of the advisory council of the Office of Trade and Investment Ombudsman (OTO) and of the Japan-US Advisory Commission.

AFP GENERAL DENIES USSR INTENDS TO CONTROL STRAIT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Aug 84 p 14

[Article by F.T. Flores]

[Text]

The Philippine commercial fleet expressed fear yesterday over the alleged deployment of more Russian combatant and non-combatant ships in the Strait of Malacca and Southeast Asian trade routes despite the build-up of the Japanese Navy in the 1,000-nautical mile area.

The commerce and trade of the ASEAN countries, including the Philippines, would be endangered if the Russian authorities push-through its plan to control the oil and trade routes in the area where hundreds of oil tankers of the free world pass through, they said.

Brig. Gen. Pedro R. Balbanero, AFP commanding general of the military police and a noted expert on ASEAN maritime affairs, has dispelled such fear, saying that only the Russian commercial fleet has been using such routes for trade purposes.

He said the Russian navy has no intention to control the trade routes in the region.

But, an American maritime analyst for the region has disputed such viewpoint, explaining further that the presence of over 1,000 Russian ships in the area might be used to harass the free world's cargo fleet.

He said, in his recent study, the presence of Russian combatant ships in the area is allegedly

CSO: 4200/970

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

NPA BOMBING PLANS--Two ranking military officials have disclosed that the New People's Army has not abandoned its plan to bomb vital government installations. This includes military detachments and various facilities in central Luzon. The disclosure was made by Brigadier Generals (Jose Blanco) Jr and Bienvenido Felix, commanders of the regional unified command and constabulary-integrated national police command respectively in central Luzon. The two officials declassified several subversive documents showing certain plans and activities of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] and its military arm, the NPA. [Text] [HK180418 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 18 Aug 84]

THREE SUSPECTED COMMUNISTS--The constabulary will proceed with a charge of rebellion and subversion against three suspected communists. They are Mila Aguilar Roque, Cynthia Nolasco, and Willy Tolentino. PC [Philippine Constabulary] staff Judge Advocate Colonel Virgilio Sandaljeno said that Roque would be charged with rebellion and subversion while Nolasco and Tolentino would be charged with conspiracy and rebellion. According to Sandaljeno, his office would file a motion with the Quezon City Fiscal's office to consider its first recommendation. The fiscal's office is requesting that the three simply be charged with illegal possession of subversive documents. [Text] [HK170837 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2245 GMT 16 Aug 84]

CSO: 4200/980

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

JANUARY-JUNE TRADE FIGURES--Singapore's trade deficit narrowed sharply during the first half of this year as exports continued to surge. The shortfall between the country's exports and its imports from abroad was reduced to \$5.1 billion against \$7.3 billion during the same period last year and \$7.8 billion in the first half of 1982. The Department of Statistics said total exports from January to June amounted to \$25.3 billion, a 13 percent increase over the previous same period while its imports at \$30.4 billion went up by a mere 2.5 percent. [Excerpt] [BK291544 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Jul 84 p 10 BK]

CSO: 4200/972

THAILAND

MILITARY, POLITICAL LEADERS PROFILED

SAP's Phong Sarasin

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 3 Jun 84 p 4

[People Today column: "Phong Sarasin, the Secretary-General of the Social Action Party"]

[Text] His father, Phot Sarasin, once served as the prime minister. His mother is Siri [Sarasin]. He was born in Bangkok on 16 July 1927. He is 57 years old. He graduated from Boston University in the United States, receiving his bachelor's degree in accounting in 1952.

His first job was with the Bank of Thailand. But after working there only 6 months, he went to work for the Central Intelligence Department, or the Thai C.I.A. After 5 years, he resigned from government service to go into private business. He established the Thai Nam Thip Company, which has grown into a large company today. He has been on the board of directors since 1959.

Besides this, he is a member of the board of the Thai Commercial Banking Company and of the Thai Daimaru Company. He is the president of the Building Materials Manufacturing Company, Ltd. and the president of the Fa Chip Company. He prefers to engage in medium-sized operations since he doesn't like operations that are too small or too large. Besides this, he is also the president of the Thai Industrial Association.

He is one of the founding members of the Social Action Party. But at first, he just provided financial support to the party and did not play a public role. There were reports that he would run for election in 1983. But he decided not to. He left his position as deputy party leader to become the secretary-general of the party. Thus, since the beginning of this year, he has been playing a more visible political role.

He was well known for coordinating things between the military and the party. But now, he is encountering a political storm within the party, just as are other senior people in the party. His wife is Mrs Malini. They have three children.

Queen's Aides

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 27 May 84 p 4

[People Today column]

[Text] Dr Phorani (Kittibut) Mahanon, a Special Expert in Her Majesty's Personal Affairs Division

She is the eldest of the four children of Police Lieutenant General Prachuap and Mrs Krachangsi Kittibut. She was born on 12 June 1944. She attended Mater Dei School, completing high school there in 1961. After that, she entered the Faculty of Political Science at Chulalongkorn University as a member of Class 14. But she attended only 3 months before winning a scholarship to attend the College of New Rochelle in New York. She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology.

On her return, she went to work at the Department of Foreign Cooperation. But after 2 years, she returned to New York University to study for her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in public administration. She returned to Thailand with a Ph.D. degree when she was just 26 years old.

She went to work at the National Institute of Development Administration, or NIDA, in 1970 as an assistant professor. She served as the deputy dean and dean of the School of Public Administration when she was only 30 years old. She was invited to teach at several institutions, including the Police Academy, the Army Staff College and Chulalongkorn and Thammasat universities. In 1975, she was invited to serve as an expert in public administration at the East-West Center in Hawaii.

She was a C9 at NIDA when she was sent to serve as a "special expert" in Her Majesty's Personal Affairs Division, which is headed by Than Supraphada Kasemsan and Khunying Manatnit Wanikkun. She provides help concerning foreign contacts.

She is married to Police General Narong Mahanon, the director-general of the Police Department. They had known each other for 16 years. She immediately became a khunying [lady] since she was awarded the Chatuttha Chulachomklao Decoration before she was married. They do not have any children.

Khunying Suwari (Phiromphakdi) Thephakham, Lady-In-Waiting to Her Majesty the Queen

She is well known by the name "Khunying Daeng." She is now 52 years old. She was born on 17 January 1932, the year of the administrative change. She is the daughter of Mr Wit and Mrs Samnieng Phiromphakdi, one of the wealthiest families in Thailand. She has lived in Bangkok all her life.

She attended primary school at Rachini School. She took a "finishing course" at Mater Dei, graduating when she was just 14 years old. She then earned a certificate in home economics from a school in Washington, D.C. She was not yet 20 years old. Phot Sarasin was the ambassador then. She has been a friend of the queen since her youth. She began serving the queen in 1967.

The duty of a lady-in-waiting is to carry out the queen's commands. But for the most part, she is engaged in special professional art projects. She is an important person in carrying out secretarial functions and sorting things for the queen and must carry out the queen's commands.

Her nickname is "Lady Rose" since she is very skilled at growing roses. At the Phuphing Palace, the roses she planted are very big. And she loves only roses.

In 1958, she married Dr Atsawin Thephakham, the deputy chief of the Army Medical Department and the former head of the Ears, Throat and Nose Section at the Phra Mongkut Hospital. They have three children.

Democratic Nation Official

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 8 Jun 84 p 4

[People Today column: "Somphong Amonwiwat, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Democratic Nation Party"]

[Text] His father's name is Siri, and his mother's name is Linchi. He was born in Bangkok on 3 July 1981. He is the seventh of 10 children. After completing high school at Amnuaisin School in 1960, he attended the Technical University of Berlin for 2 years, where he earned a certificate. He then studied business administration at Curry College in Milton Massachusetts in the United States. He received his bachelor's degree in 1967.

He returned to Thailand and went to work for the Thai Amarit Brewery Company, Ltd. in 1968, where he worked as the sales manager. He remained in this position for 5 years and was then made marketing manager. Five years later, he became the senior managing director of the Thai Amarit Brewery Company, Ltd.

When the Kloster Beer Brewery was built in Thailand, he became the manager of the Kloster Company (Thailand). Besides this, he was engaged in other activities. For example, he served as a member of the board of the Chatchua-Somphong Mining Company, the Siam Glass Import-Export Company, Ltd. and the Mahanakhon Finance and Securities company, Ltd.

Politically, because he liked General Kriangsak Chamanan, the former prime minister who showed himself to be a democratic person by running for election in Roi Et, when he decided to get into politics, he [Somphong]

joined the Democratic Nation Party and became the deputy secretary-general of the party.

If the present deputy minister of industry moves up and becomes minister, he will probaably be tapped to become the deputy minister.

When he was studying in the United States, he met Phetchari Techaphaibun, the daughter of the millionaire Uthen Techaphaibun. When he returned to Thailand, he proposed to her. They have four children.

Police Major Generals

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 19 Jun 84 p 4

[People Today column]

Police Major General Bunchu Wangkanon, the Commander of the Crime Suppression Division

This police officer, whose sphere of responsibility covers the entire country, is the son of a farmer from Bang Mayom in Thawung District, Lopburi Province. He was born in August 1932. His father, Prakop, was the village headman. His mother's name is Chan. He completed Grade 4 at Singrukprasit School. He began his studies at Amnuaisin School the same year that the Second World War broke out. And so he attended various schools in Lopburi, Ang thong and Ayuthaya until he completed lower secondary school. He completed upper secondary school at Wat Ratchabophit School.

At first, he wanted to be a doctor, and so he chose to study at the Chulalongkorn Preparatory School. But his family did not have enough money to send him there. He passed the entrance test to study at the Army Preparatory School. The next year, he became a member of Class 5 at the Chulalongkorn Royal Military Academy. Fellow classmates included Major General Suchinda Kraprayun and Major General Israphong Nunphakdi. While a student, he earned some money by boxing, using the name "Chu, the farmer's son."

He entered government service in 1958, serving as a sublieutenant in the army. After attending training at the Samphran Police Academy, he was made a police lieutenant. He served as the deputy inspector at the Phayathai Police Station. The superintendent at that time was Police Colonel Narong Mahanon. However, after only 2 years in the city, he was transferred to the provinces, where he worked for 23 years. In 1960, he was a platoon leader at the Chainat Provincial Police Station in Sanburi District. After that, he served in several provinces, including Sakon Nak' .., Udorn Thani and Yasothon. Then, he was made the deputy commander of the Police Provincial 1 in Ayuthaya.

In 1983, he was transferred to Bangkok. At first, he was ordered to serve as the commander of the Northern Bangkok Metropolitan Police. But before he could take up this position, he was ordered to serve as the commander of the Crime Suppression Division.

It is said that one of his major accomplishments was the elimination of [corrupt] police generals.

His wife's name is Prachit Singsombun. They have three children.

Police Major General Salang Bunnak, the commander of the Police Provincial 10

One of three children, he is the only son of Luang Phinitphahonwet and Mrs Thongyu. He was born in Ratchaburi on 5 March 1937. He had such a great desire to be a policeman that when he completed high school at Phaisansin School, he took the entrance test to the Police Academy three times before he finally passed it. At that time, he was in his 2nd year at Thammasat University.

He graduated from the Samphran Police Academy as a member of Class 14 with the rank of police sublieutenant. He was made the leader of Border Patrol Police Platoon 521 in Fang District, Chiang Mai Province. After that, he was made the leader of a logistics platoon. He worked in Laos until 1958 when he was transferred to Hat Yai, where he served for 11 years. During that period, he worked his way up from platoon leader to division chief. In 1970, he was made deputy superintendent in Loei Province. After 3 months there, he was asked to move to the Suppression Division and serve as the deputy superintendent of Precinct 2, Suppression Division. In 1979, he served as the superintendent of Precinct 3, Suppression Division. Two years later, he was made the deputy commander of the Suppression Division. He served as the commander of this division last year.

He handled many major cases, including the kidnapping of a wealthy Malaysian, the kidnapping of Mrs Nongnut Tansatcha and the kidnapping of Mr Udom Phanudom. The Malaysian government paid a reward of 90,000 baht. He seized a shipment of opium weighing 1,134 kilograms. He smashed a counterfeiting ring and seized counterfeit bills totalling 100 million baht. He took action against criminals countless times.

One of the sensational cases that he handled was the murder of MP Kamthon Latcharao since a suspect made charges. Another case that is still underway is the case involving the murder of the head of the Phuket court.

He has been married to Suphanwadi Chumduang for 9 years now. They have three children.

New RTAF Secretary

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 2 Jul 84 pp 3, 14

[DAILY NEWS Square column by Nanthana: "The New RTAF Secretary Who Has Just Recently Been Promoted to the Rank of Air Marshal"]

[Text] He is the first secretary of the air force to hold the rank of air marshal and to not have graduated from the Air Force Academy. He was given this position because of the broadmindedness of the air force, which wants to put capable people in appropriate positions, or which wants to "put the right man in the right job" as is said. The present secretary of the air force is Air Marshal Prasoet Satchukon, a person who is a particularly capable person in this field.

Air Marshal Prasoet Satchukon was born in Bangkok on 16 June 1927. He is now 57 years old. He is the fifth child of the former treasurer of Nakhon Ratchasima Province, Kanok Satchukon, and Mrs Lamiet Satchukon, both of whom are now deceased. He is the older brother of Pramot Satchukon, a well known person with Radio Thailand. He is married to Pha-op Fakchiem, who is now a Level-8 teacher at Saipanya School. They were married on 23 May 1954. They have three children. The eldest is Lieutenant Monthon Satchukon, a public relations officer who is attached to the RTAF Office of the Secretary. He has a degree in liberal arts from Chiang Mai University. Their second child is Lieutenant Ronarit Satchukon, an officer attached to the RTAF Accounting Office. He graduated from the Faculty of Accounting at Chiang Mai University. Their youngest child is Miss Piyachat Satchukon. She is a Grade 9 student at Saipanya School.

As for the education of the secretary, he began school in Nong Khai Province since his father was serving as the provincial treasurer there. He attended the Prachaban Wat Phothichai School in Nong Khai. When he completed Grade 4, his father sent him to live with relatives in Bangkok. He attended Ban Somdet and Bophitphimuk schools. But he completed Grade 10 at the Nong Khai Provincial School. Following that, he entered the Chulalongkorn Pre-Engineering School. But because of war, his studies were interrupted. Also, the Ministry of Education experienced a shortage of teachers. Thus, M.L. Pin Malakun asked the students if any of them were interested in studying to become teachers. Classes were organized, and the secretary felt that this was a good opportunity since he had always wanted to be a teacher. Thus, he completed the secondary teachers' course at Triemudom School.

When he completed the secondary course in 1951, applications were being accepted for flight training. Air Marshal Prasoet was interested and so he applied for flight training. Thus, he entered government service as a member of the air force. He was attached to the RTAF Directorate of Education and Training. During that period, the air force developed and improved its training programs. He was transferred to the Airmen's

which is considered to be one of the basic training schools of the RTAF. It can be said that he was one of the men who helped bring the Airmen's School up to standard. Air Chief Marshal Thep Ketunut, who was then a group captain, was the first commandant of this school. Air Marshal Prasoet served as the education officer for curriculum development and improvement, Airmen's School. Later on, he served as the head of the education section and then the deputy chief of the Education Division. He served 16 years there. But during that time, he was sent to study at high-level RTAF educational institutions. For example, he was a member of Class 1 at the Squadron Officers School, Class 9, at the Air Command and Staff College and Class 18 at the Armed Forces Staff College. He also attended the Air War College. As for training abroad, he attended the English language and military instructors course at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. He has also observed such activities in neighboring countries. During the joint military training exercises with SEATO, he served as the public relations officer. And he was the editor of the newspaper ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE for 15 years.

In 1968, he was made the head of the Planning and Statistics Division of the Air War College. He also served as the head of the Textbooks and Instructional Materials Division and the director of the Education Development Division at this college. He served at this college for 15 years until he was appointed to the position of RTAF secretary and made an air marshal in 1983. But he really became an air marshal only this past April.

As for his duties, he is responsible for coordinating activities and carrying out administrative tasks for the RTAF CINC and other high-ranking air force commanders. Besides this, he is responsible for drawing up plans to facilitate and coordinate air force tasks that concern public relations activities.

One of the things that he is proud of is that he took part in establishing and improving the Airmen's School, which as mentioned above, is one of the air force's basic training school. He has also played a part in carrying on educational activities at high-level air force training institutions. He has carried on air force public relations activities. And he has been a member of the Committee to Popularize Military Activities since the very beginning until today.

4th Army Commander

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 18 Jun 84 p 3

[DAILY NEWS Square column by Nanthana: "The Commander of the Fourth Army Area Is a New Senator, Was No 1 In the Country at the Staff College"]

[Text] The newest senator who was appointed just a few days ago is Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area who was appointed after Lieutenant General Chawalit

Yongchaiyut and Lieutenant General Thiep Kromsuriyasak. This officer is a well-known figure. But people do not know much about his personal background. Thus, today, I want to present some background material on this man.

Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong was born on 19 October 1926. He has several years left before he is due to retire. Because he was born after 1 October, he will not have to retire until 1987. He is a native of Samut Songkhram. He is the son of Mr Chai and Mrs Chip, the sister of Field Marshal Phin Chunhawan, the father of Major General Chatchai Chunhawan. When he was a child, he attended school in that province. He then transferred to Amnuaisin School. After that, when he was a young man, he entered the Army Preparatory School as a member of Class 5. Fellow classmates included General Athit Kamlangek, General Thienchai Sirisamphan, General Chamnan Nilawiset, General Han Linanon, Air Chief Marshal Praphan Thupatemi, Air Chief Marshal Wira Thaikla and Vice Admiral Praseot Noikhamsiri. After completing 3 years at the academy, he continued his studies at the Technical Academy.

After completing his studies, he became a platoon leader. In 1949 he served with the Transportation Department. Following that, he was attached to combat and support units. He also continued his education by attending the Army Staff College, Class 38. While attending this school, he placed first in his class. He was chosen to attend the Staff Officers College in the United States. On his return, he was made an instructor at the Army Staff College.

During the period 1973 to 1976, he served as the deputy army attache in Washington D.C. Since he was there for several years, people in Thailand almost forgot about him. And it was during this period that General Krit Siwara took over from Field Marshal Praphat Chrusathien as RTA CINC. In 1978 he was appointed to serve as the deputy army attache in Moscow in the Soviet Union. After his tour of duty was completed, he was promoted to major general and made the chief of staff of the Fourth Army Area. In 1983, he was promoted to deputy commanding general of the Fourth Army Area. Last October, he was made the commanding general of this army area, replacing General Han Linanon.

The commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, or "Commander Wanchai" as he is called, is a rather "cold" person. He is very knowledgeable and so he likes to "act" rather than "talk." He likes to act prudently and so he always makes plans. He takes action only after good plans have been made. Besides that, he is an honest person. As one newspaper reported, he refuses to accept bribes from anyone, which is a major issue at present.

As for his personal life, he lives simply. He does not "show off" and is very informal. His daily life is simple. He lives happily with his wife Suwimon Chitchamnong. They have one son, San, who is working on his master's degree in public administration in the United States,

and one daughter, Charanya, who graduated from Texas University in the field of home economics. Both his son and daughter studied in the United States when he was the deputy army attache there.

This was a short biography of the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, who was first in his class at the Army Staff College and who is the newest senator.

RTMC Commander

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 11 Jun 84 p 3

[DAILY NEWS Square by Nanthana: "The Commander of the Marine Corps Has Served In the Marines Since 1949"]

[Text] One capable naval officer whom I would like to introduce today is an officer who has various responsibilities. His duties extend from [units in] the eastern sea to marine units, units that are highly respected in the navy. This is because these units have [highly-trained] men and modern weapons.

This officer is Vice Admiral Prasoet Noikhamsiri, the commander of the Royal Thai Marine Corps who replaced Admiral Yuthaya Choetbunmuang. Vice Admiral Prasoet was born on 18 March 1924 in Village 1 in Nong Chok Subdistrict, Nong Chok District--the name of which was later changed to Cha-am District--Phetchaburi Province. He is the third child of Mr Lam Noikhamsiri, a district forestry official. His mother is Mrs Soi, a housewife.

The commander of the Marine Corps married Chawi Khongyasuriyachai in 1949. He was then a sublieutenant. However, his wife died in 1956. They had two children, Suphaphon and Prawit. Later on, he remarried, marrying Captain Anong Bunyahotra. At that time he was a lieutenant commander. They have one daughter, Wasitthi, who is in Grade 8 at Triemudom Phattanakan School.

As for his education, he studied at Wat Khong Kharam School, which is the Phetchaburi provincial school. He graduated from high school there in 1942. After that, he went to Bangkok and entered the Naval Preparatory School, Class 7. After completing 3 years of study at this school, he entered the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, taking the 5-year course of study. At that time, this school was known as the Army Technical College. During his 4th and 5th years there, he specialized in artillery. On graduating, he was made a platoon leader in the marines. He has served in the Marine Corps ever since 1 May 1949. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1951, lieutenant commander in 1958, rear admiral in 1977 and vice admiral in 1983. Fellow classmates include General Banchop Bunnak and Air Vice Marshal Thuanthong Yothawut.

As for the positions that he has held, he was a platoon leader with the 11th Marine Battalion, Artillery Battalion. After the Manhattan Rebellion of 29 June 1951, orders were given to disband the Marine Corps in order to reduce the power of the navy. Thus, this "lieutenant" was transferred and made the leader of the 1st Platoon, 2nd Company, AAA Battalion. Following that, he held various positions such as commander of the AAA Battalion, commander of the Marine Corps training Center and deputy chief of staff of the Marine Corps. In 1980 he was made the chief of staff of the Marine Corps. In 1981 he was promoted to deputy commander of the Marine Corps. And in 1983 he was made commander.

He has gone abroad to observe military activities a total of 14 times. He has observed marine operations all over the world. He has taken 44-week training courses at U.S. naval bases. He was the first Thai marine to take the amphibious warfare training course, a very difficult and arduous course.

Besides this, he completed paratroop training at the Army Special Warfare Center. He was the second marine admiral trained as a paratrooper. (The first was Admiral Yuthaya Choetbunmuang.) Besides being the commander of the Marine Corps, he is also the commander of the Chanthaburi-Trat Border Defense Unit, the commander of the Chanthaburi-Trat forces, the commander of CPM [Civil-Police-Military Unit] No 13 and the director of the Chanthaburi-Trat Peacekeeping Force.

The commander of the Marine Corps would like to ask for the support of all military personnel and employees of the Marine Corps. He wants them to be united and to help each other in carrying out the tasks. He wants the Marine Corps to develop rapidly in all respects. This includes maintaining national security along the border, developing the units of the Marine Corps so that they are more efficient and encouraging people to engage in sports activities. At the very least, each person should play one sport. He also wants to develop the material element, which includes having sufficient buildings and barracks. He has a great desire to see to it that all marines fulfill their duties well and that they are healthy in mind and body.

As for the situation along the Chanthaburi-Trat border, he thinks that the fighting in Kampuchea will drag on for a long time. Because Vietnam will not withdraw its forces from Kampuchea. It is pouring in forces in order to eliminate the Kampucheans. But the military is not sitting by idly. It is constantly on the alert. All soldiers are ready to defend Thailand with their lives.

RTN Secretary

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 4 Jun 84 p 14

[DAILY NEWS Square column by Nanthana]

[Text] The unit that is responsible for coordinating the general administrative affairs of the commander-in-chief of a service in the Ministry

of Defense is the Office of the Secretary. Today, DAILY NEWS Sqaure would like to introduce the secretary of the navy, Rear Admiral Prasan Chuchinda.

Rear Admiral Prasan Chuchinda was born in Thonburi on 20 March 1927. He is now 57 years old. He is the youngest child of Mr Phua and Mrs Sai Chuchinda. His older brother is Rear Admiral Prasong Chuchinda, the former chief of the Fleet Training Command. The secretary is married to Colonel Chitra Chuchinda, who is presently on duty with the Army Survey Department. They have one son, Naphaphon Chuchida, who is now working on his master's degree in administration at Cleveland University.

As for his education, Rear Admiral Prasan Chuchinda is an alumnus of Wat Nuannaradit School, where he attended both primary and secondary school. A well-known classmate of his was Dr Suphot Angkaeo. The war had just ended, and because his older brother was in the navy, he entered the Naval Preparatory School. He graduated from the Naval Officers College in 1951. He also attended the Naval Staff College, the Army Staff college--where he was in the same class as Colonel Narong Kittikhachon--and the Naval War College--where he was in the same class as Rear Admiral Phichit Chirasathit. As for training abroad, he took the U.S. Army Counter Insurgency Operations Course on the island of Okinawa.

When he graduated from the Naval Officers College in 1952, he served as a gunnery officer and chief officer on the Phali [naval ship]. In 1957, he became the captain of the Liwalom. Two years later, he was made the commander of the 5th Naval Squadron, Anti-Submarine Flotilla. In 1961, he was assigned to the Military Planning Office of SEATO. In 1964 he was assigned to the Training and Planning Division of the Naval Operations Department. In 1966 he was appointed deputy naval attache at the Thai embassy in London. He returned 3 years later and was attached to the Communications Planning Division, Naval Communications Department. In 1971 he was made the deputy chief of staff of the Bangkok Naval Station, a position that he held for 4 years. He was then promoted to chief of staff of the Bangkok Naval Station. In 1979 he was made the head of the Staff Affairs Training Section at the Naval Officers College. In 1980 he was made the head of the War Games Section at the Naval Officers College. He was responsbile for formulating combat plans. He served there only a year before being promoted to secretary of the navy, the position he holds today.

It has been [more than] 30 years since he entered government service in 1952. The secretary has carried out all his tasks in an outstanding maanner since he enjoys his work. This is because his work has been challenging. He is responsible for coordinating things with the commander-in-chief and his deputies. He is also involved in disseminating navy information and in carrying on navy public relations activities. Thus,

he has very little time left for himself. He likes to grow ornamental flowers since this makes him and his family feel good. As for sports, he often gets up early in order to jog. If he has time, he plays tennis or badminton with friends at the navy field. He feels that playing golf is a waste of time so he doesn't like to play golf.

In carrying out his duties, if he encounters a problem or an obstacle, he tries to figure out exactly what the problem is before trying to solve the problem. Besides this, he says that some problems are just a matter of not seeing the obvious.

RTA Munitions Expert

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 28 May 84 p 3

[DAILY NEWS Square column by Nanthana: "The Officer Who Invents New Weapons, the Youngest Son of Krom Phraya Damrong"]

[Text] I would like to introduce a capable officer who is well-known to people. This officer is involved in several new projects that I want to mention.

Special Colonel M.C. Kumandit Ditsakun was born at the Waradit Palace on Lan Luang road. He is the youngest child of General Somdet Krom Phraya Damrong Ratchanuphap and M.C. Chongchitthanom Ditsakun. He has had patrons ever since he was born. When he was 4-5 years old, he went with his father to Penang in Malaysia following the administrative change in 1932. His father served King Rama VIII when the king returned to Thailand by ship the first time and stopped off at Penang. While living in Penang, Special Colonel Kumandit attended the Saint Xavier School. He returned to Thailand with his father in 1942. He attended Wachirawut Withayalai and Phaisansin schools. He entered the Army Preparatory School, Class 9, but failed his second year there. Thus, he transferred to the Army Reserve Officers School. He was made a sublieutenant in 1952 and was stationed at the Infantry Center. Following that, he passed the test to study at the Fort Benning Infantry School in the United States, taking the platoon leaders course and the communications officer course. He served as an interpreter with the 25th Division at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii when the Royal Thai Army sent non-commissioned officers to study there. Since 1968 he has served as the representative of the Infantry Center and been responsible for the safety of the royal family at the Klaikangwong Palace at Hua Hin. Also, since 1972, he has served as a special guard to the royal family. On 2 March 1984, he was made a staff officer to the commander, a position for a special colonel. He has carried out tasks at the Infantry Center. He has tried to invent new materials for the Infantry Center and the army. In doing this, he believes that the materials must be easy to make, inexpensive, effective and suitable for use in our army.

Things that Colonel Kunamdit Ditsakun has done include:

1. He participated in the royal project to "attach machine guns to police helicopters." Originally, police helicopters were not armed and so they could not fire back when fired on by communist terrorists.
2. [He invented] a device to control setting off explosives in order to reduce the danger of an accident.
3. He made models showing the operation of various weapons systems.
4. He designed 25-meter field targets for use in training soldiers to fire accurately.
5. He designed a night-firing center for training with M16 rifles. He dedicated this to the king.
6. He designed and produced the M7 training mine using training ammunition.
7. He designed boots that would reduce the danger from explosives and M14 mines or the equivalent. These boots reduce the danger of losing a leg.
8. [He invented] a shape charge that is used to destroy in-coming rounds and rockets.

11943

CSO: 4207/185

4TH ARMY COMMANDER BLAMES CPT FOR UNREST

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 30 Jun 84 pp 1, 11, 15

[Article: "In the South, Many People Are Being Killed and a Major Struggle Is Underway"]

[Text] Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, talked with reporters on 29 June at parliament about the killing of nine people in Nakhon Sithammarat. He said that this was the work of communist terrorists. These communist terrorists belong to the group of Comrade Raktham. "The communist terrorists who said that they love the country and love democracy are sham communist terrorists. They are acting like bandits and are just trying to make profits. There is no longer any honor in being a communist terrorist."

Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong said that "I condemn the actions of the southern CPT, which is acting like a group of bandits. People who know the truth won't cooperate with them." A reporter asked where Comrade Raktham is. Lieutenant General Wanchai replied that "originally, he had a base in Phipun District. But this base was destroyed. At present, he is carrying on guerrilla activities. The Fourth Army Area has sent forces to attack him. It takes these communist terrorists a long time to assemble just 30 men since they have been dispersed. Some of their forces are in the jungle while others are in the villages."

The reporter asked whether the communist terrorists were involved in the many killings that have taken place in the south. Lieutenant General Wanchai said that the "killings that have taken place concern profits. For example, there have been disputes over land stretching from the marshes to the mountains. The communist terrorists have given land to the people and attacked the government by saying that the government has left the land fallow and not given any attention to the people. As for giving land to the people, the Fourth Army Area does not have the authority to take action. It has twice sent letters to General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, asking that the Fourth Army Area be allowed to establish a center to set up a forest preserve system in degenerate areas. But to date, there has been no response from the prime minister."

Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong said that unless quick action is taken on this matter, there will be problems concerning state power. Because the communist terrorists will be able to control the people. This is why the Fourth Army Area has submitted this matter to the prime minister. The reporter also asked whether the killing of entire families involved profits. Lieutenant General Wanchai said that "it is difficult to prevent such things. If officials find out that people are involved in a dispute, they try to mediate. But soon after they leave, people are killed. I don't know what to do about this."

The reporter mentioned all the talk about the high crime rate in Nakhon Sithammarat this year and asked what the truth is. Lieutenant General Wanchai said that the "crime rate is no higher than last year and may even be somewhat lower. However, the killing of these nine people made the headlines. Concerning the fact that eight Democrat MPs from Nakhon Sithammarat Province have submitted this matter to me, it is good that we can help each other. However, I don't think that we should view the situation in the south as being too serious. I can confirm that things in the south are not as serious as people are saying. I don't know why these things have suddenly been raised as problems since the transfer of General Han Linanon. As for whether or not this is a political matter, you can think about that yourself."

That same day at parliament, Mr Samphan Thongsamak, the deputy minister of education and a Democrat MP from Nakhon Sithammarat Province, told reporters that the MPs made an urgent motion on the crime problem in their capacity as the elected representatives of the people. "Since the people have told us what the problems are, we have carried out our duty as their representatives. That is, we have made a motion. Otherwise, who would represent the people? By making this urgent motion, we hope to solve the problem."

Mr Samphan Thongsamak said that the killing of these nine people in Nakhon Sithammarat was a terrible thing. This happened because of a dispute between different groups. "Innocent people were hurt, too. This has never happened before. Besides that, the communist terrorists have distributed leaflets that state that two of the nine people killed, one of whom was identified as Mr Pon, were hoodlums who caused trouble for the people."

Mr Samphan Thongsamak said that the communist terrorists occasionally wear government uniforms and carry identification cards. Some of them dress as lieutenants and captains. This is a problem that must be solved. "I have proposed ways to solve this problem. First, the [quality of the] local officials must be improved. Administrative, military and police officials must cooperate with each other and go into the localities to explain the government's policy [to the people]. Also, [relations] between the local influences and the communist terrorists must be severed and illegal timber and mining operations must be controlled."

Mr Samphan Thongsamak said that he agrees with Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong and that he favors allowing the people to work the wild forest areas. "In the past, the person who supervised the afforestation work was Mr Lek Churak, who was an underling of the communist terrorists. The matter of the communist terrorists controlling the villagers has been a problem for a long time. It will help if the Fourth Army Area makes a resolute effort. But we must try to eliminate the other hidden interests, too."

Mr Samphan said that the fact that MPs made this urgent motion was in no way related to the transfer of the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area. "I would like to meet with the commanding general in order to exchange ideas. I know that there are certain things that he is not aware of and that he knows things that I don't. General Wanchai and I have known each other ever since he served as the chief of staff here. We don't have any conflicts. I know that the commanding general has a good grasp of the problems in the south. However, the work methods of each commanding general are different."

11943

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

LARGE TIN DEPOSIT FOUND, 1987 PRODUCTION TARGET

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 8 Jun 84 p 9

[Article: "Thai Ao Kham company Is Delighted At Finding Large Tin Deposit"]

[Text] The chairman of the Thai Ao Kham company has told NAEO NA that it has found a large tin deposit. It is located at a depth of 200 feet in the Indian Ocean. Preparations are being made to invest several hundred million baht to begin extracting the ore in 1987 once the tin situation returns to normal.

Mr Rachan Kanchanawanit, the president of the Mining Council and the chairman of the Thai Ao Kham Company Ltd., stated that the Mining and Universal Activities Company, which is a subsidiary of the Thai Ao Kham Company, was hired by the Ocean Resources Company to survey a tin deposit at a depth of 200 feet in the Indian Ocean at a spot 35 kilometers from the Phangnga-Phuket coast.

The results of the surveys conducted during the past 2 years have been very satisfying. A large, commercially viable tin deposit has been found below the ocean floor. If it is developed, it will generate great profits that will more than cover the investment.

In conducting the survey, the Ocean Resources Company obtained an ore survey license, which is good until 1986, from the Department of Mineral Resources, Ministry of Industry. Recently, the company asked for an additional 84 million baht. Originally, it had told the Department of Mineral Resources that a total of only 20 million baht would be needed to make the survey.

As for investing money in order to extract this under-sea tin, this will cost several hundred million baht. However, it is not yet known what type of mine will be constructed.

"This is in an area where the ocean is very deep. Thus, it is difficult to extract the ore. But we must do so since we have already invested several million baht. And we are confident that the profits will be very large," said Mr Rachan confidently.

According to the target, the company will begin extracting the tin by the end of 1987. This is a suitable period since the tin situation on world markets will have returned to normal by then--if the World Tin Council succeeds in solving the problems and removing the limits on production and if the smuggling and sale of tin to non-members can be controlled.

At present, excess tin stocks total approximately 100,000 tons, and this does not include the tin stocks in the storehouses of the U.S. General Services Administration. Thailand has approximately 6,000 tons of excess tin in stock. The government will probably have to find a way to make greater use of tin domestically by selling it to factories that produce canned food and tin containers.

11943

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

COLUMNIST NOTES INDONESIAN ASEAN LEADERSHIP VIEWS ON SRV

Bangkok NAO NA in Thai 29 May 84 p 3

[Piercing the World column by "Technocrat": "When Will Thailand Lead?"]

[Text] These days, Indonesia is playing a large international political role. During the past 2-3 years, Indonesia has become a leader in ASEAN by implementing a well-planned diplomatic policy.

The fact that this large country to the south of Thailand is an island country and is free from direct threats from neighboring countries and other great sea powers has been of great help in keeping Indonesia free of various entanglements.

The fact that Indonesia is a large country with a population of more than 150 million people, added to the fact that it is situated along a strategic sea lane, has made this a very important country.

However, even with these factors, if the country's leaders were not interested in making the country a leader, the country would be a "sleeping giant" just like Australia.

But President Suharto has played the role of a leader and gone beyond just maintaining the interests of his country. Indonesia has become the spokesman for other third-world countries. In particular, it has played a prominent role among the non-aligned countries.

The purpose of saying all this is to inform people that, these days, the world has come to view Indonesia as the "leader" in ASEAN. And so it will probably involve itself in our affairs. If our interests follow a similar path, there shouldn't be any problem. But if our interests should conflict, other countries will probably give greater weight to what Indonesia says.

For example, recently, a senior Indonesian military officer stated that Vietnam poses no threat to ASEAN since it is poor and does not have the resources to invade anyone. People have accepted this view.

If we don't want to become, however unintentionally, the client of another country, the Thai government should take an interest in this problem. We don't have to become the laughing stock of others and let them say that we "followed the butt of America" and that we are now "following the butt of China."

11943

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND, SWEDEN ON SATTAHIP PORT IMPROVEMENT

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 13 May 84 p 6

[Article: "One Billion Baht to Be Spent On Improving Sattahip Port"]

[Text] Mr Samak Sunthonwet, the minister of communications, announced that the Thai-Finish-Swedish Joint Investment Company has submitted a report to the ministry on investing in Sattahip Port activities.

As for the details of this, approximately 1 billion baht will be spent to improve Sattahip Port so that it can handle more container goods and general goods. What is important is that money will be spent on five large cranes and other support facilities such as a conference room for port workers. It will take 6-8 months to install the various things.

Mr Samak said that making these improvements will enable Sattahip Port to handle 15,000-20,000 ton ships. At present, ships this size have to go to Bangkok Port, which wastes a lot of time in transferring cargo. Besides this, this will help relieve the congestion at Bangkok Port and allow other ships to use the services of this port.

The minister of communications said that the system to be implemented will be in accord with the Chachoengsao-Sattahip railroad construction project, which will be completed around the end of this year. This will enable us to transport goods from Sattahip Port to the container goods storage dump of the State Railway of Thailand at Phahoyothin. From there, the goods can be transported to the various regions by rail and truck.

At present, the Ministry of Communications is making preparations to submit the Joint Investment Committee's report on investing in Sattahip Port activities to the Port Authority of Thailand. The Port Authority of Thailand is now considering whether to allow private companies to rent facilities and carry on activities at Sattahip Port. Things will be completed around August. This port will be able to go into operation before Lam Chabang Port is completed. It will also be able to support development projects along the eastern seaboard.

As for what the debt-service ratio will be on the loan that has been made, Mr Samak said that we are now discussing what our income and the service fees will be after Sattahip Port has been improved. We are also considering whether we should divide the income from net profits or from income.

11943

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

TENSION RISES, LAO CLOSE LOEI BORDER

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 12 Jul 84 pp 1, 14,16

[Article: "Along the Mekong River, Thailand Has Ordered a 24-Hour Alert"]

[Excerpt] The border situation in Loei Province has become more tense. Red Lao soldiers, with the support of Vietnam, have sent additional troops and weapons to the border and positioned them at four points along the river bank in order to start a war. Thai soldiers, civilians and border patrol police have gone on full alert to handle the situation. Patrols are being made all along the Mekong River in order to prevent our sovereignty from being violated. Orders have been given to maintain a 24-hour alert.

At 0900 hours on 10 July, Mr Somchin Inthuong, the head of Sanakham District in Vientiane Province, Laos, announced to the people who live along the Mekong and Heuang rivers along the Thai-Lao border to get ready to dig bunkers around all the villages in order to be prepared for war if war should break out. On 5 July, Mr Ketu Bangsi, the deputy civil defense official in Sanakham District, ordered the closure of the Thai-Lao border there to prevent people from crossing over to the Thai side.

Lao people who are sick don't have to come see doctors in Thailand since Laos has skilled doctors who can treat them. This is because Laos has received aid from Vietnam. It has adequate equipment. A report filed by a reporter stated that ever since Laos ordered the border closed, no Lao people have crossed into Thailand. Previously, approximately 50-60 people a day crossed the border. After attacking the border patrol police and Regional Security Volunteers operations base at Ban Nakha and blowing up two bridges at Ban Pakwan in Ban Sai District, Loei Province, on 8 July, Red Lao soldiers moved up naval forces and other reinforcements along the Mekong and Heuang rivers in order to be prepared. Troop transport boats from Vientiane have made five to six trips a day. These troops headed for Pak Chom and Chiang Khan districts in Loei Province. The first place they landed was in Paklai District. Reinforcements were sent to Ban Paphai. The battalion commander was Major Khamphoei. Vietnamese soldiers participated in these operations in

order to prepare for war. The second place that they stationed forces was at Ban Don Chiang and Ban Wang along the bank of the Mekong River opposite Ban Khok Phai in Pak Chom District in Thailand. Third, reinforcements were sent to the 64th Battalion in Sanakham District opposite Chiang Khan District in Loei Province. The fourth point to be reinforced was Ban Na Lat at the mouth of the Heuang River opposite Ban Khok Ngiu in Chiang Khan District.

Later on, Police Colonel Sukhom Sangsubwong, the superintendent of the Loei provincial police precinct, sent an urgent radio message to the chief inspectors in all districts in Loei Province to come learn what the policy was in order to be on the alert 24 hours a day in case the situation deteriorated even more. Mr Thongdam Banchun, the governor of Loei Province, ordered the district officers in the border districts to look after the villagers and hold meetings to prepare the people. He also issued an announcement telling the people not to cross into Laos. This was done for the protection of the people.

Colonel Praphan Khamat, the commander of the 18th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Battalion [sic], at the Sisongrak Camp in Loei Province, ordered his troops to go on a 24-hour alert. Colonel Subin Pinsuk, the deputy governor for military affairs, went to observe the movements of the Lao troops along the border in order to be prepared to handle the situation if fighting should break out. Border patrol police under the command of Police Lieutenant Colonel Seri Thailoi, the commander of the 2nd BPP Company in Loei Province, led patrols along the Mekong River. As for the Mekong River Operations Unit [MROU], Sublieutenant Chao Wienmayu, the commander of the Chiang Khan MROU squadron, led patrols on the Thai side of the river in order to monitor the situation and prevent [Lao forces] from crossing over into Thailand. At the same time, marine police conducted patrols all along the Mekong River.

The report filed by the reporter stated that three supply ships have taken food to the Red Lao soldiers stationed at various points opposite Thailand. Besides this, transport boats have taken approximately 300 armed troops to various points. Viewed from ports on the Thai side, the activities of the Lao troops can be seen clearly.

11943

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THAILAND

FOREIGN INVESTMENT, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ISSUES NOTED

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 8 Jul 84 pp 1, 2, 15

[Article: "This Work System Hinders Investments"]

[Excerpt] General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, opened the meeting on the "role of multinational corporations in Thailand" at the Asia Phatthaya Hotel on the morning of 7 July. During his opening remarks, General Prem said that the topic of the conference is very important since it reflects the basic policy of the government in promoting foreign investments. Besides this, this will mobilize the knowledge and experience of government officials, Thai and foreign investors and specialists, which will benefit the nation's economic development.

General Prem said that the Thai government believes that foreign investments have an important role to play in developing the country. Because during the past 20 years, gross domestic production has increased rapidly, reaching 20 percent at present. Industrial development has expanded, which will result in infusions of large investments and modern technology. And multinational corporations will participate in this development.

The prime minister said that multinational corporations and foreign companies in general will provide much help in developing our export sector, creating more jobs and developing our technology. And they will provide administrative [support] for Thai companies. These are all targets of our foreign investment [policy]. The multinational corporations will focus on [non-]industrial countries where the production of agricultural products and raw materials is primary. This will benefit the Thai people, particularly the farmers.

In conclusion, General Prem said that this is the future direction of the multinational corporations that invest in Thailand. And this is the path for the officials concerned and for promoting investments in Thailand.

On the first day of this conference on the role of multinational corporations in Thailand, Dr Thira Phanuphong, the deputy secretary-general of the Office of the Board of Investment, revealed that the Board of Investment

is in the process of forming a technology center in order to take over technology from the multinational corporations that have come to carry on operations in Thailand. This is essential to the economic development of the country. However, it is essential to have the cooperation of these multinational corporations.

Mr Bernard Co, the president of the Shell Company and the president of the British Chamber of Commerce, spoke about the problems of multinational corporations in Thailand. He said that there are still problems with bureaucratic delays. This is one reason why foreign investors hesitate to invest in Thailand.

Concerning this, Dr Chirayu Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, the deputy minister of industry, talked about bureaucratic interference, which is a problem for investments. He said that this matter has been presented to the K.R.O. and cabinet so that this problem can be solved.

Dr Chira Hongladarom, the deputy chairman in charge of organizing the conference, said that a multinational corporation center had been established and that it had taken 5-6 months to do this. General Prem has supported this project since Thailand will benefit from this cooperation by obtaining both modern technology and investments.

11943

CSO: 4207/189

STRONGER DISCIPLINE LINKED TO BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS WITHIN ARMY

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese Jun 84 pp 8-11

[Article by Lieutenant General Le Quang Hoa: "Attention to the Living Conditions of Troops and the Matters of Strengthening Discipline and Raising Fighting Strength"]

[Text] Strict, self-imposed discipline is part of the revolutionary nature, is a factor in the fighting strength, is a very fine tradition of our army. Therefore, building stronger discipline is a basic and constant part of the effort to improve the quality of troops. It is also a major objective of the present campaign to "display the fine nature and raise the fighting strength" of our armed forces.

The discipline of our army is the combined result of many factors: politics-morale, organization, material-technical base, tactical and technical proficiency, the role played by the corps of cadres and the work of organizing and supporting daily life. To build stronger discipline, full attention must be given to all of these factors, none can be given light attention. This article only deals with the role played by cadres in looking after the daily lives of troops and the impact of this effort in building stronger discipline.

The daily life of troops consists of both their spiritual life and their material life, consequently, it involves needs that lie in very many different areas: cultural and spiritual needs, the needs for food, clothing, shelter, disease prevention, medical treatment, travel and so forth. How well the daily lives of troops are supported has a direct impact upon the enthusiasm, optimism and health of cadres and soldiers, upon the fighting strength and discipline of the unit. Devoting attention to the daily lives of troops is an unchanging viewpoint of the party because it is attention to the forces that bear arms in defense of the country, bear arms to save the country, attention to building the people's armed forces--an effective tool of force of the dictatorship of the proletariat state. As a result, looking after the daily lives of troops is the responsibility of all the people, of the state, of all sectors, levels and localities and the direct responsibility of cadres, beginning with command cadres. Uncle Ho appealed to all our people to insure that troops "are well fed so that they can win victory." He always taught that "cadres must love and care for the members of their unit"(1) and

"absolutely must be aware of and concerned about what they are saying, their joys and sorrows, their daily needs. If you share joys and sorrows with your soldiers, they will happily follow you anywhere, regardless of the danger, and fight hard whenever you order them into battle."(2) The 5th Congress of the Party also pointed out that we must "give more attention to the material and spiritual lives of troops."

At present, the buildup of our army, its training, combat readiness and combat missions and its national tasks as well as international obligation, which are being performed and fulfilled against the background of having to win victory over the wide-ranging war of sabotage being waged by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists while maintaining our readiness to defeat a large-scale war of aggression should they recklessly unleash one, raise very high and urgent requirements. The intensity with which troops are working is very high and their daily life is one of constant pressure, one that demands the expenditure of a very large amount of energy. Therefore, looking after and supporting the daily lives of troops have become a matter of even more pressing importance.

Under present circumstances, our country, our people are having to make extraordinary efforts to overcome the difficulties being encountered with the economy and in everyday life. In the effort to meet the daily needs of troops, we cannot, therefore, avoid the limitations imposed by the country's actual circumstances. However, if, on the basis of certain economic capabilities and conditions, state agencies give this matter appropriate attention and the command cadres on the various echelons do their best to look after the daily lives of troops and consider this to be a regular and important task of decisive significance to the fighting strength of the army, it is still possible to gradually overcome the difficulties being faced and improve the daily lives of troops in a manner consistent with the overall development of the country's economic situation.

Facts have shown that wherever and whenever the commander and leadership agency display high responsibility by regularly giving attention to and looking after the daily lives of troops, adopt a concrete and thorough plan, develop upon the staff role played by the functional agencies, tap the sense of collective ownership of the mass of cadres and soldiers, closely coordinate with the local government and receive the wholehearted assistance of the people, the daily lives of troops are less difficult, internal unity, consensus and discipline are firmly maintained and tasks are completed.

Improving the daily lives of troops is not simply restricted to producing products, raising livestock, repairing barracks and so forth in order to improve the meals, living quarters and recreational facilities of troops. It also entails close management which insures that troops receive both the quantity and quality of products due them under the standards stipulated by the state and army and eliminates embezzlement, misappropriation and the practice of arbitrarily reducing these standards. It involves organizing daily life in a thorough, scientific and equitable manner so that the daily lives of troops are stable despite the difficulties and shortages that still exist and manifest the concern of the party and state, the spirit of sharing joys and sorrows between cadres and soldiers, between the upper and lower echelons, between the agency and the unit. With this accomplished, there is

still optimism in the face of shortages, still happiness and unity in the face of difficulties.

It can be said that how well the daily lives of troops are looked after directly depends, to a very important degree, upon the sense of responsibility and love of the command cadres on the various echelons, who are the persons directly responsible for looking after and organizing the daily life of the unit.

Responsibility is that which each person must do in fulfillment of his function and task as defined in the Regulations of the army. However, in order for responsibility to be responsibility of the fullest sense, it must be based on love, love for one's comrades, for the other members of one's unit, love among persons who live and die together, who share joys and sorrows.

Responsibility and love, love and responsibility are closely intertwined; they have an impact upon and stimulate each other. Responsibility without love is responsibility that is less than wholehearted, less than full, is responsibility lacking creativity; conversely, love that is not based on responsibility easily evolves into "favoritism" or into laxity, rightism and a lack of strictness with ourselves and others.

In daily life as well as every other field, the responsibility and love of the commander toward the cadres and soldiers under his command are not simply a matter of "inner love," rather, they must be manifested in a concrete and vivid manner through practical organizational work, through specific efforts that produce practical results. The greatest responsibility, the deepest feeling of love on the part of the cadre toward troops are expressed by first concerning himself with educating and training troops in every respect and creating the conditions for them to complete their task well, make continuous progress and quickly mature, regardless of the difficulties and challenges faced.

In combat, only by sweating on the training field is it possible to shed less blood on the battlefield. In production, productivity and quality can only be achieved by working in a technical, disciplined manner. Therefore, to the commander, displaying responsibility and love means that he must emphasize discipline so that the unit, in the face of every difficulty and under all circumstances, completes its training program and trains under conditions that simulate combat and battlefield conditions as best possible and absolutely never relax or reduce requirements. In the performance of every task as well as in daily life, he must seek ways to put every activity on a regular basis and build a sense of truly strict compliance with the code of discipline. Because, only by maintaining discipline in every field during normal times is it possible to heighten discipline in combat.

In order to meet the high requirements that exist concerning combat discipline, discipline on the training field, labor discipline, discipline in daily life and so forth, it is necessary, in conjunction with heightening the spirit of awareness of cadres and soldiers, to give special attention to the conditions needed to provide support in every area, among which supporting daily needs is a matter of major importance. When large amounts of energy are

being expended, it is necessary to provide good support in terms of food, shelter, clothing, disease prevention... As the pace and pressures of life increase, support of such needs as the need for enjoyable and relaxing spiritual and cultural activities must be increased. The policy that is adopted must go hand in hand with a plan of action; at the same time, it is necessary to assist and supervise their implementation by the agencies and command cadres on the lower echelons.

To lead is to conduct inspections. The material support being provided to troops must be examined and inspected at the very places that this support is being provided and in every area, from transportation and receiving to weighing, measuring, counting, storage and use. Inspections should be oriented toward determining whether or not grain, food, essential goods and medicine are being delivered to those who are supposed to receive them in exact accordance with standards, of the quality required and on schedule; on this basis, it is necessary to promptly uncover shortcomings, correct mistakes, determine which echelons and persons are responsible for them and put an end to negative phenomena.

In supporting the daily lives of troops, the commander and the functional agencies must display full initiative and adopt realistic plans in order to always provide the unit with material reserves sufficient to meet the demands of difficult situations.

Cadres must share joys and sorrows with soldiers, mingle with the masses, keep abreast of what is happening and maintain close contact with basic units so that they have a clear understanding of the life of troops and learn the thoughts and aspirations of the cadres and soldiers under their command. Cadres must serve as a model of the proper lifestyle, good personal qualities and revolutionary ethics. They must discover and promptly praise examples of a pure and wholesome lifestyle that is consistent with the revolutionary nature and fine tradition of our army. Only in this way can the unit achieve strong unity and strict discipline; gradually thwart and eventually eliminate cases and incidents involving violations of the code of discipline; and constantly increase the unit's fighting strength.

As our army moves toward becoming a regular force, modern army and the "one person in command" policy is fully implemented, the more strict its discipline must become and the more the love within the army must radiate a deep, paternal love of one's comrades, of the other members of one's unit. The defense of the fatherland and the buildup of the army are raising very high material-technical support requirements, very high requirements in supporting daily life, from weapons, technical equipment and training equipment to food, living quarters, clothing, disease prevention, medical treatment and so forth. The requirements regarding the spiritual and cultural lives of troops are also very numerous. Troops must have books and newspapers, be able to hear news reports, reports on current events and the positions and policies of the party and state, attend theatrical performances and movies, participate in cultural, athletic and sport activities and so forth.

Our party and state have adopted positions and policies on supporting and looking after the daily lives of troops, positions and policies that express

the concern of the entire party and all the people for the army, especially for units on the frontline, on the borders and islands and units engaged in the performance of our international task. However, in view of the fact that the country is encountering economic difficulties and difficulties in everyday life, it is not a simple matter to turn these positions and policies into reality and it is even difficult to fully implement them in a short period of time. As a result, it is even more necessary for the commander to display a high spirit of responsibility and love, to take the initiative and display creativity and concern himself with the daily lives, with organizing the daily lives of troops, instead of waiting for and relying upon others. At the same time, he must vigorously tap the sense of collective ownership and uphold the right of collective ownership of all cadres and soldiers and utilize each of their innovations and talents in improving the material and spiritual lives of the unit in exact accordance with the laws and regulations of the state and army.

The essential, daily needs of the army must be met by the agencies of the state. However, this is no reason to not display initiative, to passively wait for these goods to be supplied by the state and the upper echelon and not emphasize self-reliance and the deep involvement of the commander in improving and organizing the life of the unit. It is also a very serious mistake to operate in a careless, sloppy fashion with no regard for the economic policies of the state and use public property to make personal "improvements" within the unit or for oneself.

Led, educated and forged by the party and receiving the wholehearted support and dedicated assistance of the people, our troops are ready to shed their blood and sweat to defend the fatherland, defend the people.

Looking after the daily life of troops is not only necessitated by immediate requirements, but also by the cause of defending the fatherland, is a need of today and tomorrow as well. It is also an indispensable requirement in strengthening the discipline of the army.

The display of responsibility and love by cadres will increase the confidence that troops have in their commander, in their leader, promote oneness between top and bottom, promote unity between cadres and soldiers, promote the sharing of a single will between the army and the people, promote strict, self-imposed discipline and tap the combined strengths of the entire unit in order to complete, complete in the best possible manner, each task assigned by the party and state.

FOOTNOTES

1. Ho Chi Minh: "Voi cac luc luong vu trang nhan dan,"[With the People's Armed Forces], Quan Doi Nhan Dan Publishing House, Hanoi, 1975, p 91.
2. Ibid., p 139.
3. The Communist Party of Vietnam: "Van kien Dai hoi dai bieu toan quoc V.," [Proceedings of the 5th National Congress of Delegates], Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1982, Volume I, p 45.

7809

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SECOND BSR TROOPS SAID TO CROSS THAI BORDER, ROB, RAPE

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 13 May 84 pp 1, 16

/Excerpt/ A BAN MUANG correspondent based on the Thai-Kampuchean border in Aranyaprathet District, Prachinburi Province reported that since the end of April the tension on the Thai border has decreased greatly because the advent of the rainy season has meant that the fighting in Kampuchea has decreased to almost nothing. But Thai officials at a village in Thakham Precinct of Aranyaprathet District, which is opposite Poipet District of Battambang Province /Kampuchea/ have positioned the Th.S.P.Ch. /Thai Volunteers for National Defense/ forces to watch over the border and be on the alert for armed Vietnamese patrols of the Second Border Security Regiment patrolling along the Phromhot Canal, which marks the border.

The Vietnamese patrols are apt to meet Thai citizens bathing and washing clothes in the Phromhot Canal. Everytime they meet, the Vietnamese soldiers are seen to make hand signals requesting sex and to smile and undress. But there were no border crossings.

That was until yesterday (12 May) at 1155 hours when an incredible incident occurred. A Vietnamese patrol entered Thailand at Ban Khoksabaeng Village No 12, Thakhom Precinct, Aranyaprathet District just when Mrs Nu Bun-utnun, 27, and Mrs Toi Wansa, 23 (her younger sister) and wife of Pvc Wisai Chansa who is with the 209th Border Police Platoon, were bathing and washing clothes in the Phromhot Canal. The Vietnamese soldiers seized the two women and crossed back to the Poipet side. But fortunately they were able to struggle free of the grasp of the foreign soldiers and race back across the Phromhot Canal, which was head deep, narrowly escaping. The Vietnamese soldiers were not able to bring the two women into their territory. All they got were the clothes and sarongs of the two women as souvenirs.

After the two women escaped they reported the events to Mr Sawatdi Netrathan, the assistant headman of Village 12. He lead the Th.S.P.Ch. forces in pursuit of the Vietnamese soldiers, but apparently the Vietnamese had already fled into Kampuchea.

Mrs Chanthri Bun-utnun, 46, the mother of the two women, wept and told the correspondent that, "The Vietnamese have caused alot of trouble for my family. Three years ago my husband was shot and killed by Vietnamese soldiers when he

was fishing in the Phromhot Canal. On 4 March 1984 the Vietnamese sent soldiers in to rob certain things. They took identification cards, house registration, marriage certificates and even the death certificate of Mr Ek, my husband. And today my two daughters were raped by Vietnamese soldiers."

Mrs Chanthi told the correspondent through her tears that "when I went to see the district officials to ask for new cards, the district head did not wish to issue any replacement cards. In addition, he imposed a fine and accused me of destroying government property." Mrs Chanthi asked the correspondent to keep in mind what the officials had done.

8149

CSO: 4207/178

END